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SOUTH AFRICAN

ZIONIST FEDERATION.

REPORT OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

Second Annual

South African Zionist Conference

HELD AT

Johannesburg, 29th & 30th November, 1906.

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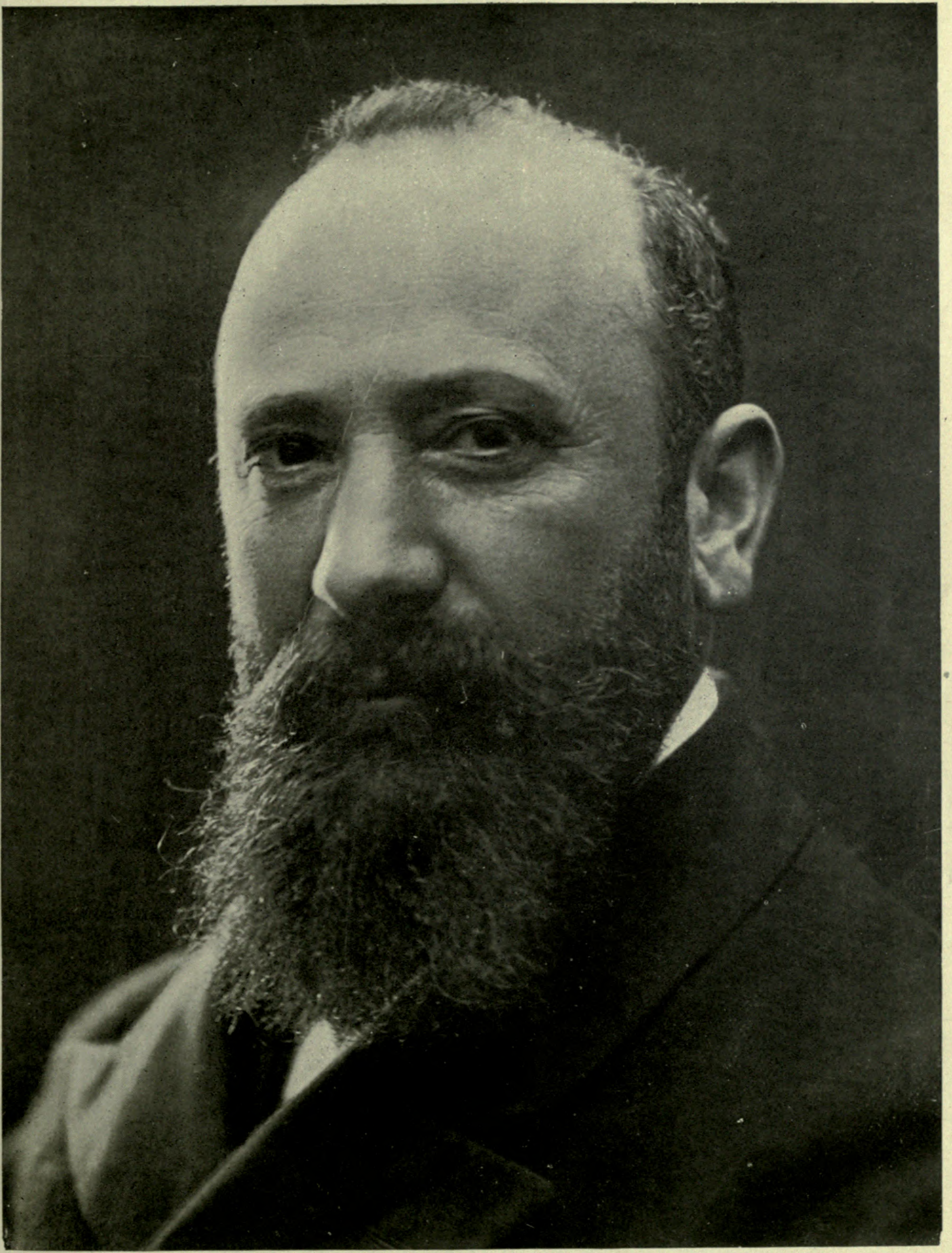

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David Wolffsohn, Chief of the International Zionist Organisation, arrived in Capetown on the 21st November 1906.

He was met at the docks by Mr. Advocate Alexander and 150 Delegates of the Peninsula, who travelled by special trains, and was extended a very hearty welcome to South Africa.

On the evening of the 20th November a grand reception was held in the City Hall, presided over by the Mayor, Mr. H. Liberman, attended by about 2,500 members of different sections of the Jewish community.

An illuminated address was presented, messages from Zionist Associations and individual Zionists all over South Africa were read, a very large number coming from Johannesburg, and other towns and districts of the Transvaal.

On the 23rd November Mr. Wolffsohn arrived at Port Elizabeth. He was met by an influential deputation, and afterwards proceeded to the Town Hall, where he was publicly welcomed by the Mayor and prominent citizens of the town; the presentation of addresses then took place: the first was by the local Zionist Association, and another was from the Uitenhage Zionist Society.

A large company assembled at the jetty to bid farewell to the great Zionist leader.

On arrival at East London, he was entertained by his Worship the Mayor (Councillor R. Walker, J.P.), at Deal's Hotel, and a large and influential gathering welcomed him.

Mr. Wolffsohn's next place of call was Durban, where he left the mail boat to entrain for the Rand. On arrival at the wharf he was met by a deputation of the Hebrew Congregation. A reception was held in the Alexandra Hall, where addresses were presented.

Mr. Wolffsohn proceeded to the Rand to attend the Conference, and received deputations and addresses of welcome at Volksrust, Standerton, Heidelberg, and Germiston, amidst scenes of the greatest enthusiasm.

On Tuesday, 29th November, David Wolffsohn arrived at Park Station, Johannesburg. It was a scene to be remembered; long before the train arrived immense crowds of our co-religionists wended their way to the station.

Both sides of the platform were densely packed, including a large number of ladies, one and all being bent on one object, that of giving a right royal welcome to Mr. Wolffsohn.

Owing to the seething mass of people assembled, speech-making was impossible, and Mr. Wolffsohn was escorted to an open carriage and driven to the Carlton Hotel.

On the 28th November a reception was held in the Wanderers Hall, presided over by the Mayor.

The enthusiastic receptions, which have everywhere been accorded our leader, have been an outstanding feature of his visit to South Africa. From the Cape to Johannesburg the kindliest sentiments and sympathy for, and loyalty to, Mr. Wolffsohn and the great cause he represents have been expressed, but probably at no South African town was he accorded such a magnificent ovation as that with which he was greeted in the large hall at the Wanderers. It is not an exaggeration to say that no previous social function held in that hall has been so largely attended by citizens of Johannesburg.

The Secretary of the Federation read an illuminated address on behalf of the South African Zionist Federation. The Mayor, Mr. W. K. Tucker, welcomed Mr. Wolffsohn on behalf of the town of Johannesburg, and Mr. S. Goldreich, President of the Federation, on behalf of the Zionists of South Africa, extended to Mr. and Mrs. Wolffsohn a hearty welcome.

On Thursday, the 29th of November, Mr. Wolffsohn opened the second annual South African Zionist Conference, of which a full report is published.

In the evening a banquet was given by the members of the South African Maccabean Club, at which Mr. Advocate Manfred Nathan presided.

On Friday evening, after the conclusion of the Conference, Mr. Wolffsohn and all the Delegates attended Divine Service at the invitation of the Witwatersrand Old Hebrew Congregation, when Rabbi Dr. Hertz delivered an impressive address. Saturday morning, at the invitation of the Johannesburg Hebrew Congregation, Divine Service was attended in the Park Station Synagogue, on which occasion a special sermon was given by Rabbi Dr. Landau. A special service was also held in the afternoon at the Beth Hamedrash.

Saturday evening a floral fete for the children was held in the Zionist Hall, attended by Mr. and Mrs. Wolffsohn, and was highly appreciated.

On Sunday, December 2nd, a mass meeting was held in His Majesty's Theatre. The stage and auditorium were packed to overflowing, and hundreds were unable to obtain admission.

Mr. Wolffsohn delivered a stirring address, and roused his audience to an intense pitch of enthusiasm.

A ball and a concert was given on Monday night in honour of Mr. and Mrs. Wolffsohn in the Masonic Hall, and it was a most successful function.

During Mr. Wolffsohn's visit he had a most interesting interview with the High Commissioner, Lord Selborne. His Excellency expressed himself as being very greatly interested in the movement; he said they had his entire sympathy, and wished the cause every success.

Mr. Wolffsohn also had numerous interviews with every section of the community at his hotel.

Our leader left Johannesburg and arrived at Pretoria, where he was met and entertained by a large body of influential citizens; the party then visited Mr. and Mrs. S. Marks at Zwartkopjes Hall.

A banquet was held in his honour, at which the Acting Lieutenant-Governor and the Mayor of the town were present.

The Pretoria stay included a visit to the Premier Diamond Mine, where he was welcomed by the Chairman, Mr. T. M. Cullinan, and was the guest of Mr. and Mrs. Julius Heyman. A mass meeting was also held, and the greatest enthusiasm aroused.

Mr. Wolffsohn's next stay was at Middelberg (Transvaal), where he arrived on Friday evening, and stayed over the Sabbath. (On the journey he was welcomed with an address at Witbank). A banquet was held in his honour, and he was presented with an address.

On arrival at Delagoa Bay, Mr. Wolffsohn was met by the entire Jewish community, and finally embarked on the s.s. Admiral, and held a reception on deck. Previous to his sailing for the Holy Land, David Wolffsohn sent the following telegram of thanks to South Africa :—

"On my departure from South Africa I desire to publicly record my heartfelt thanks for the reception accorded me in every part of this sub-continent. The enthusiasm and many tokens of sympathy evinced both by Zionists as well as non-Jewish citizens makes me confident that we shall have support in our difficult task of procuring for the Jewish people a publicly-recognised and legally-secured home in Palestine.

I take this opportunity of asking that this enthusiasm and sympathy be translated into action, so as to help the political negotiations which must precede the return of the Jewish nation to their Homeland.

"After two thousand years of cruelty and oppression, the people of the Book appeal for help to the lovers of the Book.

"To all those who have given me so many proofs of goodwill I render sincere thanks; may we meet on our soil and in our own land in happiness and peace.

David Wolffsohn, President,
"International Zionist Organisation."

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SOUTH AFRICAN

ZIONIST FEDERATION.

SECOND ANNUAL CONFERENCE,

November 29th and 30th, 1906.

The SECOND ANNUAL SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST CONFERENCE was opened on November 29th in the Masonic Hall, Jeppe Street, when delegates from the various constituencies in all parts of the sub-continent were present. The President (Mr. S. Goldreich) occupied the chair, supported by Mr. David Wolffsohn (Chief of the International Zionist Organisation) and the following members of the Executive :—A. M. Abrahams, S. Lennox Loewe, F.A.A., J. H. Goldreich, A. Sprinz, Manfred Nathan, R. Rosenthal, Hy. Graumann, B. J. Chaimowitz.

The Secretary, Mr. L. M. Hart, read the notice convening the Conference, and then called over the names of the delegates representing the various affiliated societies of the Federation. The following were present :—Aberdeen, Rev. Manne; Bulawayo, S. Goldreich; Bloemfontein, Rev. Lawrence; Beaufort West, Dr. Horwitch; Bellville, F. Levy; Cape Dorshei Zion, M. L. Genussow, Rosenthal; Cape Y.M.Z.A., Dr. Abelheim; Cape Junior, Jacob Sterner; Cape Ladies, Mrs. Dr. Hertz; Ceres, Rev. Dayan Friedman; Calvinia, Rev. Woolf; Claremont, J. Heyman; Durban, Rev. A. Levy; Durban, Ladies, Mrs. Landau; East London, Rev. Dr. Hertz; Francistown, Hy. Sacke; Germiston, M. D. Hirsch, A. Kirsen; Grahamstown, Rev. Lipschitz; Graaff-Reinet, Hyman Morris; Gwelo, M. Diamond; Harrismith, Melzer; Heidelberg, J. Reichenberg; Jeppes, W. Rabinson; Johannesburg, P. Blum, Max Solomon, Perlow, H. Solomon, I. Levy, Stone, Edelstein; Johannesburg Ladies, Mrs. Glaser, Miss Micolisky; Boksburg, L. Abrahams; Benoni, S. Gordon, Ginsberg; Johannesburg National Fund Club, B. S. Hirsch, J. Janover, J. Kisselov, A. Abraham; Johannesburg Herzl Society, A. M. Abrahams, B. I. Joffe, E. H. Eliovson, J. Gratus, B. Weinronk, S. L. Sive, N. Rosenfeld; Kimberley, J. W. Sapiro, J. H. Goldreich; Krugersdorp, L.

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Phillips, M. Stein; Klerksdorp, J. Summers; Kingwilliamstown, Rev. Hirschowitz; Koffyfontein, J. H. Israel; Middelburg, C.C., M. Cohen; Middelburg, Transvaal, Manfred Nathan; Maitland, Einhorn; Malmesbury, A. Karp; Maraisburg, Transvaal, A. Sprinz; Mossel Bay, C. J. Kark; Paarl, S. Levinsohn; Pretoria, Rev. Rosenberg, B. Marcus; Pretoria National Fund Club, A. Rabinowitz; Potchefstroom, Rev. Cohen; Piquetberg, M. Abraham; Queenstown, J. Caplan; Riversdale, Hy. Graumann; Roodepoort, J. Sacks; Randfontein, M. L. Pessin; Standerton, S. Levinsohn; Springs, I. M. Goodman; Stellenbosch, B. J. Chaimowitz; Simonstown, Rev. Dayan Rabinowitz; Thaba 'Nchu, E. L. Moseley; Uniondale, Dr. H. Goodman; Uitenhage, S. Lennox Loewe; Volksrust, S. Shapiro; Vryheid, Dr. Landau; Vereeniging, Cohen; Wellington, Rev. Hilcowitz; Winburg, O.R.C., B. Wolpert; Worcester, W. H. Cohen; Wynberg, C.C., Dr. Kanin; Witbank, B. Danziger; Willowmore, Rev. J. M. East.

The President's Address.

After the roll had been called, the President delivered his address. He said: I have very much pleasure in welcoming you to the second Zionist Conference in South Africa. You have come from all parts of the sub-continent in order to be present here and to discuss matters of utmost importance to our people. This Conference acquires an additional dignity through the presence amongst us of the elected Chief of the International Zionist Organisation, a man who, like his immortal predecessor, Herzl of blessed memory, is giving his life to our holy cause. Through our earnestness, through our devotion to our common work will we make manifest the honour that we wish to pay to David Wolffsohn, the leader of the Zionist hosts in the Diaspora.

THE POSITION OF THE JEWS.

Let us review our position in the world. For the great majority of our brethren the position is one of unutterable horror. In Russia we are made the scapegoats of the vilest system of oppression extant; and the result is murder, organised butchery, systematic annihilation. Despite Ministerial promises, the day of peace is, alas, as far off as ever. May God have mercy upon our brethren in that unfortunate land. In other countries, with very few exceptions, such as Denmark, Holland and Italy, we have persecution in all its various manifestations and gradations. Civilisation seems to hold no remedy for the problem of the Jew. It seems only to alter the methods of his torture which can shake the heart of the stoutest. In free and enlightened England even the Aliens Act is in full operation, and tragedies are weekly enacted at Grimsby. In spite of it all, our martyred race are still the greatest optimists of the world. They are still the apostles of hope. Our own propaganda, while humanitarian, is something vaster; it is Messianic bearing aloft the ideal of the brotherhood of man and the realisation of righteousness on earth. It is this which gives us courage, endows us with deathlessness. The Hamans of the world may continue to proclaim "There is a strange people amongst us; let us exterminate them." Others bid us to be as if we were not among the nations—to assimilate with them—but we know our duty. We remember our past, and live.

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THE WORK OF THE ZIONISTS.

What is our work? It is to obtain a publicly-recognised and legally-secured home in Palestine. This has always been our goal, but it is only of late years that our aspiration and activities have been distinctly formulated by one man—Herzl—therefore we revere his memory, and, therefore, his Yahrzeit is a day of mourning amongst our people throughout the earth, and a day consecrated to renewed activity on the lines he formulated. Let us examine our work. (a) First, we have the National Fund, wherein the contributions of the millions are to be utilised for the purchase of land in Palestine. One of the activities of this fund is the "Golden Book," in which the memory of our workers and of our dear ones are recorded and many homes in this continent are decorated with the certificates of such inscription. The National Fund Committee has appointed a Commissioner for South Africa in the person of one of the most active of our workers, Leopold Kessler. In a few weeks he and his committee will proceed with the distribution of their collection boxes throughout the land. You, in all your constituencies, will help. Although it was at one time thought advisable to delay the activity of the National Fund, it has now been decided to proceed with the work without any further delay, and good progress has already been made. (b) Secondly, to increase the prosperity of the agricultural colonists in Palestine, to improve the fertility of the land, to increase the humidity of the climate, we are engaged in the planting of olive trees. There are still many in South Africa who have not yet assisted in this work. A certificate, on similar lines to that employed by the National Fund, is issued by the Central Committee to the donators of ten trees, and some of these certificates already adorn South African Jewish homes. (c) Thirdly, the Bezalel, the art and technical school, under Professor Boris Shatz, is busy in teaching handicrafts to the inhabitants of Jerusalem. Its beneficial influence in re-creating the self-respect of Palestinean Jews pauperised by the Chaluka system, as well as its practical bearing on the industries in the Holy Land, are of incalculable importance. The funds at the disposal of this work are insufficient, but as all the articles made, such as carpets, leather work, pottery, etc., are finding a ready and profitable sale, it is hoped that private enterprise will assist this work and thus increase the beneficial results foreseen by those who planned the Bezalel. (d) The Agricultural school, being erected for the orphans of the Russian massacres, will provide a home for these unfortunates, and materially increase the number of agricultural and technical workers in Palestine. They will be trained to love the land of their fathers and to live by primary industries. (e) The large and growing number of agriculturists and manufacturers in Palestine have been greatly helped by the financial work done by the Anglo-Palestine Bank. It is a commercial and not a philanthropic institution, but its work has not yet been fully appreciated in South Africa, and no efforts have yet been made to increase its working capital by the sale of shares here. This should be done without delay. Professor Warburg, a member of our Central Committee, has been busy for a number of years in formulating commercial plans for Palestine, and this had now taken definite form in the Palestine Industrial Syndicate. It is proposed to handle fruit culture, sheep farming, distilling, motor and other transport, fishing, mining, cement, and other manufacturing concerns, and in this connection, through the activity of our friends here, we are forming a subsidiary Palestine Syndicate here to act in conjunction with Professor Warburg's syndicate, and to take part in such work as our experience suggests will be profitable. Professor Warburg's report, entitled "Palestine Questions," has been translated by our fellow-worker, Lennox Loewe, and has been issued throughout South Africa and Australasia.

THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE.

Let us now turn to our Central Executive and examine their work. It has indeed been arduous work, which has brought out the finest qualities of the men engaged therein. Amongst them we have statesmen, diplomatists, propagandists and workers of every description. Assured of their devotion and self-sacrifice as we are, do we appreciate them, do we encourage them? Not nearly as much as they deserve. We have convinced our Chief that we do understand the work that has been done, but we must do a great deal more. Our appreciation must take tangible form, and that must be done by means of the shekel. South Africa is expected to provide 20,000 shekolim this year, and we hope that we shall not be disappointed. We are issuing in this connection the pamphlet prepared by the Central Committee, entitled "Ten Years of Zionism." Although the expenditure of the Central Committee is greater than ever, the income is smaller than it has ever been, and that is because our co-religionists in Eastern Europe are unable to subscribe as they would wish. From our own small store we must make good the deficiency, because our material prosperity is vastly greater than that of the millions of our co-religionists in Eastern Europe. The Central Committee is not perfect. Much can be done to improve their methods, but before all things the financial facilities for this increased activity must be provided. It is unreasonable to ask our workers, in addition to giving their time and their work, to also provide the funds required. The English-speaking countries have not done as well as I had expected, and it is for that purpose that we intend to suggest to the Central Executive a more complete organisation of the English-speaking centres under a sub-committee working, say, from London. That the work of the Central Committee is increased, and that it is of the greatest value and importance to our people, and that it has not been neglected, is shown by the report presented by our Chief to the Conference at Cologne this year, and which report has been circulated by the Federation in South Africa and Australasia. In continuing the work for our Charter we cannot sufficiently strengthen the financial instrument, which is largely to bring about that consummation.

THE JEWISH COLONIAL TRUST.

The management of this is conservative, its dividends are small, but they are being earned, the reserve fund is steadily growing. The capital, however, has not yet reached the two millions that is required, and our purchase of the shares has not reached the number that I had expected South Africa to purchase. It is not entirely the fault of this land. Methods that we had previously adopted were not effective; but there is no reason why share clubs should not again be formed on better lines and avoid the mistakes of the past. Efforts were made to convince the directors that a branch should be opened here. They did not see their way clear to do this, but arrangements are now being made with an important local financial firm in order to open an agency, and we know that you will support them. This is Congress year, and if we take up the 20,000 shekels that have been sent us we shall be entitled to a representation of 100 delegates. We will then be able to make our voices heard and our influence felt as a united whole in the Congress. We shall be able to formulate our wishes. One of the most important items of the work of this Conference will be to issue a mandate to those delegates, a mandate, as in the past, to support the Central Executive! We will thus show our appreciation of their work, make manifest to them our confidence in their ability and in their determination to ameliorate the condition of the Jew.

CONDITIONS IN THE TRANSVAAL.

Now let us turn to our own conditions in this land. Although we are free and are good citizens and have made manifest our patriotism, still are we loved? Here, as everywhere, eternal vigilance is the price we pay for our safety. Anxiety has often been caused in South Africa by the work known as "liquor trapping," a system contrary to every principle of Anglo-Saxon liberty or justice. We are by no means convinced that men have not been branded as criminals and imprisoned on perjured evidence. Well, we are British subjects, and have votes, therefore duties and responsibilities. We are greatly interested in the advance and prosperity of every part of South Africa. We, therefore, desire to have the politics of these States discussed in an amicable manner, and not on vindictive racial lines, which must lead to perpetuation of bitterness. We are interested in knowing whether our farmers, traders and miners are encouraged as they should be, whether our Governments are efficient and economical, whether our taxes are equitable, and whether everything has been done that is possible to encourage our permanent prosperity. All these matters require thought and action, and as a Constitution is being granted to the Transvaal, the elections are at hand, and we must, therefore, more than ever, be vigilant. The personality of the candidates for public suffrage should be carefully examined, and, no matter what his party or his standing, if he is a known anti-Semite oppose him. Always bear this in mind, that a Jew-hater is morally and mentally—I repeat and mentally—unfit to legislate or to govern. Use your votes, and you will be respected. Our organisation progresses. The enthusiasm of our people is increasing. They are proud of their institutions. Only lately a very large sum has been collected in every part of the land for the Russian Massacre Orphans, a large sum has already been despatched to the Central Committee, and more will be sent. The Central Committee in this work have invited the co-operation of every great Jewish body throughout the earth. It will be of interest for you to know that this work was begun by Mrs. B. H. Altson, the President of the Melbourne Jewish Ladies' Zionist Society, for whose praiseworthy activity I desire to record my admiration.

LOCAL WORKERS.

The Russian Orphans Massacres Fund, through its worthy President, Mrs. Alice Langermann, is distributing the certificates of appreciation to our co-workers. I desire to thank Messrs. E. Friedlander and Co., Ltd., for the kind assistance in issuing all our drafts on London without charge. Our pamphlets are being regularly distributed, and the South African Zionist Federation, whilst not as strong as it should be, is nevertheless one of the many links in this great chain which encircles the earth, and one of which we need not be ashamed.

EDUCATION.

The members of the Federation do not always agree, but they always work, and I take this opportunity of most heartily thanking them for their activity since the last Conference. They merit your thanks. We attach the very greatest value to Jewish education, and one of the most important of the methods suggested for providing this for those children living on scattered farms, remote townships and other centres, where Jewish schools do not exist, is the method of correspondence classes. The learned Secretary of the American Federation, Dr. Leo Magnus, is busy in this work on our behalf, and we earnestly hope before long to initiate this method in South Africa. In this we want your help, the help of all parents, the help of all friends of our children. One of the great necessities of our land has been a travelling Organiser, and, although the societies at their last Conference agreed to provide the necessary funds, this has not yet been done, and that has greatly hampered our propaganda. There are still numbers of towns in this country where no Zionist Societies have been formed or towns where our branches are drooping for want of personal encouragement and information. Especially is that the case with juvenile societies. Many more should be formed. Our children should be taught our past; they will then be proud of their history and race. Many ladies' societies have been formed, and have given great assistance. Here, as elsewhere, women have shown that they are interested in this work, but our funds are entirely insufficient for the demands made on them. Many of our societies seem to think that Federation dues are unnecessary, and the paucity of their contribution will be evidenced from audited accounts to be submitted. Whilst they are not sparing of their criticism they are sparing of their contributions.

Our organisation is still incomplete, and it cannot be made effective until further funds are provided. I would like to take this opportunity of pointing out to the treasurers of societies that it is their duty to bank all funds and to forward them to the Federation, and not to allow them to remain as fixed deposits in the hands of unauthorised individuals. In this connection I wish to state that a method of handling the entire financial question by means of books of stamps has been suggested, and you will be asked to discuss it. The societies also are not regular in making the statistical returns, which are so necessary in giving the Federation the information which they require for their work. The roll of honour, which was discussed at the last Conference, has not yet been inaugurated. Some difficulties have arisen, and, although I think it of great importance to the success of our work in this country, it has not yet been found possible to carry out your wishes, and you will be asked to discuss same.

Some small additions and alterations to our constitution will be submitted, and you will give same your consideration. It is desirous that every member of the Central Committee, either living in or visiting South Africa, should, *ipso facto*, be a member of the Federation during his stay here, in order that we may have the benefit of their co-operation. Since the last Conference much has happened, much has been done, much has been left undone. Many of our workers are no more; they rest in peace. Other workers, in spite of some discouragement, are as active as ever. New workers are coming forward, and one is encouraged by their help. During the last year I have visited Australasia, and did what I could to assist our propaganda. In most of the Jewish centres societies have been formed, and the formation of a Federation in Australasia is now being discussed. Many very active workers reside there, and especially have I found the ladies of a community most anxious to assist the Zionist propaganda. Men and women belonging to the wealthiest and most cultured classes, as well as those of other classes, have shown great interest and energy. In order to hold this Conference during Mr. Wolffsohn's presence we have rushed the societies, and some of the appointments are a trifle irregular, because Federation dues remain unpaid, but the importance of your presence is of greater consequence than the short delay in paying Federation dues. I think you will agree with me in this.

THE INFLUENCE OF CONFERENCES.

Do these Conferences do good? I am of opinion that they are of the greatest good, and I hope that the next Conference which should be held in some other town in South Africa will be as effective in chaining the enthusiasm of our people as those held in Johannesburg. We are often twitted that we are dreamers, but, although we are dreamers, we are also workers, and cheerful workers, engaged in grappling with the greatest repatriation scheme of all times. Workers for an aim which will not only benefit the Jew, but will be of inestimable value to the whole earth. We do not escape the ordinary vicissitudes, but we hope for the best, though prepared for the worst, and we take things as they come. We work with increased energy because we are determined, God willing, to witness with our own eyes the redemption of Israel.

Mr. Wolffsohn's Address.

Mr. Wolffsohn, who was received with loud and prolonged applause, expressed his thanks for the great reception the Zionists had given him the previous day and that morning, and his pleasure at witnessing their enthusiasm. To him the pleasantest part of his visit to Johannesburg was the fact that it gave him an opportunity of meeting the delegates of the Federation. Yesterday Mr. Kark had reminded him of an incident at Basle. He (Mr. Wolffsohn) was introduced to a delegate from South Africa, and he asked rather doubtfully whether the delegate really came from South Africa. The reply was, "Certainly," and when it was asked why he appeared to be doubtful he said, "Only money comes from Africa, but people never come." (Laughter.) Now, he did not wish to insult them by relating this incident, but he really had never known people from Africa, although he had always heard of money coming from there. They could therefore imagine the pleasure with which he found, on visiting their continent, not only money, but people—Zionists. (Applause.) There was no room for doubt that the Zionists of South Africa were second to none amongst the Zionists of the world. Dealing with the financial side of the movement, he said while money was the thing with which they could fight, and a means by which they could attain their object, yet money without men was useless. Money alone could not do very much, but if the people had their hearts in the work then they would get both the money and the workers, which were absolutely essential. It would be waste of time on his part to go in detail into Zionist propaganda, and to talk to them of things which they knew themselves and knew from the newspapers. On the other hand, he would like to repeat what he had said before in South Africa, viz., that the South African Federation was the best ordered and the greatest of all Zionist Federations. It was not his custom to praise, nor did he wish to be praised himself, but he could not help praising Mr. Goldreich—(applause)—and thanked him for his work. It was very often said that in the Zionist movement there were a few men who took the whole burden of the work upon their shoulders, from the greatest to the smallest of their societies the weight was always on one pair of shoulders. The whole burden of the Zionist movement rested on Dr. Herzl until he broke down; and he (Mr. Wolffsohn) had come to the conclusion that there could only be one at the head, but that one man must have people to help him, people to support him, people who worked for the movement and who had no other interests, not even other Jewish interests, because if they had then their work of Zionism was disturbed. Zionists were the pulse of Jewish life; wherever Judaism was they must be, because they stood for the Jewish nationality. Orthodox Jews said they were for the Jewish religion, and the Jewish religion was, of course, the chief thing, for without Judaism no Zionism was possible, just as without Palestine no Zionism was possible. Israel and God were one; Israel and Palestine were one; Israel and the Book of the Law were one—God, the Book of the Law, Israel, and Palestine. They could not separate one from the other. They were and should become one. They could not say that the head was the chief part of the body, or that any of the limbs were the chief part. Together they formed one compact whole, and just as they could not separate the limbs from the body without impairing the whole, they could not separate Israel, God, the Book of the Law, and Palestine. But they did not work only with their head, but also with their heart, and he was reminded by this thought of what their officials and the federation had done. They had collected more money than any other body, and what was more, they had not only collected it but they had sent it to the headquarters. (Laughter.) They had worked for the National Fund.

J. Kreminetzsky, the Chief Commissioner of the Jewish National Fund, in his report of the Fund, said to the Congress he wished to give South Africa the praise, but the other people at the Congress said they could not do that, because if they did it to South Africa they would have to do it to all other nationalities. He (Mr. Wolffsohn) said that each one should get what was due to him. It had also been said that the best and most lasting work had been done by South Africa. Now he came to apportion a little blame. They had given money for pretty well everything, but they had not subscribed to the Trust as they should have done. If they had held back because they thought whatever they subscribed was in the nature of a present, he asked them to abandon that idea, because they would get something for the shares. He was immensely pleased at the time of the massacres to notice that South Africa not only helped, but helped quickly. The first money received for relief came from South Africa, in spite of its great distance from the scene of the massacres. With regard to money subscribed towards the Zionist movement, the same thing applied. Every day that was missed the movement suffered. They should send the money collected away at once, and not place it on fixed deposit. It was necessary for each society every month to send the shekel money to the Federation, and the Federation must send it to the National Committee, because without it they could not exist. He was compelled to say that the movement sickened because it was at present too much dependent on people who had money. As long as that was the case they would never attain anything great. What they wanted to aim at was to get the whole of the people to give a little, not only of their money, but of their support as well. Speaking of organisation, Mr. Wolffsohn went on to say that his chief work was to so organise the movement that they had a solid foundation on which to rear their building. To this end he wanted the officials not only to work and struggle and live for the movement, but also to live by the movement. Having alluded to a project which he had in his mind of publishing a Hebrew supplement to the official Zionist paper ("The Welt") and also an English edition, Mr. Wolffsohn went on to speak of the selection of delegates for Congress. He did not wish them to think that he stood there as the President of his party to catch votes. He was a Palestinian Zionist—indeed, he did not understand how they could think of Zionism without Palestine, and in so far as that went he was a man of his party. But he really did not belong to any party, and he did ask them in selecting delegates to remember the chief thing, which was apt to be forgotten by them. They had not only to work to get Palestine, but to remember the words of Herzl, who said, "Before we can return to Palestine we must return to Judaism." They had also other work to do. It was not only necessary for them to see that Zionists were enthusiastic, but that the whole Jewish nation was enthusiastic about the Hebrew language and about Jewish institutions. Moreover, in regard to delegates, if they sent delegates to Basle they must elect them in accordance with the constitution. They asked for Palestine; Palestine belonged to them, and they must ask for it; but he believed in practical work and not impractical work. They dare not forget for a moment that their movement was a political one. He could not understand how Zionists could return to the old point of view. Were they so foolish as to give up the movement which Herzl had made, all the enthusiasm which he had aroused, and the organisation which he had created, in order to buy another half-dozen goats in Palestine? That they would never do. The Zionist movement was a political movement, and would remain so as long as he was at the head of it. Herzl had reversed the old order of things when the Jewish people used to wait for other people to approach them; he taught them to treat with other people on the same ground. His methods were quite new, and interviews with the Sultan, the German Emperor, and Mr. Chamberlain were looked upon as wonderful occurrences. To-day, if he had the opportunity of visiting a king or a prince he should consider it a waste of time unless he could get something out of the interview. That was not because he thought too much of himself, or was self-opinionated, but because he was desirous of getting help for the movement from the highest and the lowest, and not merely for the sake of demonstration. (Applause.) There was no doubt that united they were a great force. Each of them, without exception, could do something, and after all the commonest of their duties were the most important. Just as was the case in everyday life, eating was a very commonplace function, yet it was most necessary, so it was with the shekel and the National Fund. It was quite ordinary work, but it was the most important. In order to carry on their work they must have money. He knew that was not a propitious time to talk of money, but their bad times were as nothing compared with the bad times their brethren had experienced in Russia. Mr. Wolffsohn then thanked the Federation for what it had done for the children of Dr. Herzl, two girls and a boy—Hans. Hans would grow up a good Jew and a good Zionist. The children of Dr. Herzl were orphans, and Zionists were also rendered orphans by their great leader's death. But orphan children often arrived at maturity earlier than ordinary children, and he felt sure that if they kept the object they had in view before them, turning neither to the right nor the left, they would finally attain that object. (Applause.)

EDUCATION.

The first item on the agenda was Education.

The President said there were thousands of Jewish children living on these scattered farms and in the little towns where it was impossible to give them any education, or only such faulty education as gave the children a very false idea of what Judaism and Zionism meant; and it was thought that some effort should be made to improve that. With that end in view they had thought that a system which had become very popular, called the correspondence classes, should be initiated. Under it sheets of lessons would be distributed once a month, and prizes should be offered in order to induce the children to learn something about thir nation and history. Dr. Leo Magnus, of New York, was now at work on these lessons, and they hoped to have them here before long. He would be glad if the Conference would discuss this question.

The Rev. Mr. Levy (Durban) asked if the President could give them any idea of the scope of the work which Dr. Magnus was preparing.

The President said the lessons were to begin at the beginning and were prepared for the child who knew nothing of Hebrew or of the Jewish history or religion. After the course of twelve monthly lessons it was hoped that the child should have a fair knowledge of Jewish history and religion, and a little of the Hebrew language. They wanted at first to interest the child sufficiently to induce him to learn something of his race. Dr. Magnus was being assisted by some of the ablest pedagogues available. They were quite ready to forward any suggestions from the Conference. It was recognised that it would be quite impossible to get these lessons prepared or printed in this country.

Mr. Diamond asked why they did not first take an interest in Hebrew education in Johannesburg before looking after the outside places.

The President replied that their first duty was to the helpless in the outside districts. The Jewish community in Johannesburg could help themselves, while small and scattered communities outside could not.

Mr. B. S. Hirsch thought the correspondence scheme was impracticable.

The Rev. Mr. East thought that all the Jewish communities, however small, included a man capable of giving religious instruction. What they had to do was to inculcate a love of Zionism and of their nationality in the hearts of their children. The idea of the correspondence system was to reach the Jewish farmers. These, he thought, were very few in number, and those few were generally also tradesmen, wealthy enough to send their children to school in centres where they could get religious instruction. He thought an essay competition amongst the children would be productive of much good.

Mr. Abrahams said a great proportion of the Jewish people did not care too much about having a Jewish education for their children, and what was wanted was to create a desire for this kind of education. It was all very well to say that small Jewish communities should help themselves, but how could they when the communities were small and the means scanty.

Mr. J. H. Goldreich, a member of the Executive, said they knew from past experience that, although the delegates came there and asked the Executive to do this, that, and the other thing, they did not send one shilling with which to do it. Unless they came there and said they were prepared to find so much to carry out a scheme, they were simply wasting the time of the Conference in bringing up all this. They did not find funds to carry on the ordinary business of the Federation, and how did they think the Executive were going to carry out the big schemes which they suggested. It should be an instruction from the Conference to all the delegates that they form schools in all their various centres, and let them find the funds to carry on the schools. They knew it was absolutely impossible for the Federation to carry out their suggestions unless they found the funds for the purpose. He proposed that it go as an instruction from the Conference to the various societies throughout South Africa that they form schools on any method that they liked, and according to the funds at their disposal.

Mr. Manfred Nathan seconded.

Mr. Levy proposed, as a further amendment, that the Conference should appoint an Education Board, which should be under the auspices of the Zionist Federation, and this Board should give instructions to the different towns. He proposed that the Board consist of Drs. Landau and Hertz, Messrs. Shapiro and Abelheim.

Mr. M. D. Hirsch seconded.

Mr. Weinronk thought each congregation should look after the education of Jewish children.

Mr. Edelstein proposed, as a further amendment, that the whole question be referred to a sub-committee appointed by the Conference, who should draw up a scheme to be presented the following morning. He proposed that the committee should consist of Drs. Landau and Hertz, the Rev. Mr. Rosenberg, Messrs. L. Levy and A. M. Abrahams.

Mr. J. M. Goodman seconded.

Mr. Nathan withdrew the amendment proposed by Mr. J. H. Goldreich.

Dr. Hertz said he wanted to oppose this reference to a committee. Unless they wanted the Conference on this subject to be a miserable failure, let them tackle the question at once. They could appoint sub-committees and even Commissions, but they knew quite well that they had not the funds, and they could not possibly saddle the Federation with the cost of a vast education scheme. Unless their desire was to deceive themselves, they would not waste their time discussing schemes which must end in nothing for lack of funds. Don't let them imagine they were strong enough to found a Jewish University here. The only thing which they could do was to help along organisations which were already in existence. There was no Jewish community in South Africa which had not a Talmud Torah. The Federation could contribute to the local Talmud Torahs, and individual Zionists, if their professions of love for Hebrew and Judaism, were not so much wind and air, could contribute their 6d. a month or 6s. a year or one sovereign a year to the Talmud Torah already in existence, and the Federation would join forces with these men who wanted to keep up existing organisations, resuscitate dead ones, and establish new ones where none existed before. That was the one practical purpose before the Conference. The idea of dictating to the congregations and asking them to give the teaching into their hands was ridiculous. They would not be dictated to. He would like to support the correspondence scheme touched upon by the Chairman. In a large town such a scheme would be useless, because even a bad teacher was better than several correspondence schemes. But there were numbers of Jewish families spread all over South Africa where there was not even a bad teacher, and they would welcome the tiniest light. A correspondence scheme such as would be worked out by one of the cleverest and most wonderful Zionists alive, Dr. Judah Leo Magnus, one of the coming leaders of the Zionist movement, assisted by half a dozen of the best Zionists in America, would certainly pay the postage on the sheets transferred from America to South Africa. He moved :—

> That the Federation instruct all Zionist Societies, as well as Zionists as individuals, to co-operate by every means with whatever forces in the various communities make for education; that especially for out-of-the-way Jewish families the correspondence system formulated by Dr. Magnus be introduced; and that a special sub-committee of the Federation have charge of Jewish education work.

Mr. Wolff seconded.

The Rev. Mr. Levy (Durban) said the whole idea of sending to America was to improve the quality, not the quantity, of the teaching the children had. By joining forces with the congregations or other local bodies, they would not improve the quality, but they might improve the quantity. It was all-important that children should have a knowledge of the Hebrew language, and they should have an adequate knowledge of Jewish history. They should consider the necessity of improving the quality of the teaching.

The discussion then closed, and Dr. Hertz's amendment was agreed to unanimously.

Juvenile Societies.

Mr. Edelstein opened the discussion on this point, and moved for the appointment of a special Commissioner, to be called the Juvenile Zionist Societies' Commissioner, who should have control over the formation of these societies and their conduct.

The Rev. Mr. East seconded.

The Rev. Mr. Levy (Durban) thought the sub-committee just appointed to look after the correspondence classes should take upon itself the duty of forming and looking after these juvenile societies.

Mr. Cohen thought that a member of the Executive should have charge of the organisation and the propaganda of these juvenile societies, and should also endeavour to establish them all over South Africa.

Dr. Hertz did not favour any of the proposals already made. He did not strongly support that this work should be handed over to some special sub-committee, because he thought absolutely nothing would be done. Neither did he approve of the appointment of a Commissioner, because he thought he could count on the fingers of one hand, and yet have a few to spare, the men in that hall who were capable of such difficult work. This was a vaster question than they imagined. It was all very well to say appoint a member of the Executive, but it would take all his spare time and energy, even if he had the genius and ability. In order that anything they might do on this matter might be a success they should have the beginnings of an organisation, as they had in Germany, where they had juvenile societies' papers. In order to succeed they ought at least to have a paper in existence, such as *Young Israel*, which had a juvenile Zionists' supplement. They had nothing of the kind here.

A delegate present reminded Dr. Hertz that there was a Juvenile Society's paper in Johannesburg, which, however, was not well supported.

Dr. Hertz said he knew the paper, and knew why it was not supported. They must bring this question of juvenile organisation to the notice of the Central Committee of English-speaking Federations, to which the Chairman had alluded. They could not dream of a juvenile paper and a whole scheme of propaganda. Indeed, they had not a scheme of adult propaganda, and the best thing they could do was to bring their difficulty to the notice of similar organisations which felt the same need, and to see whether in connection with their correspondence scheme something could not be worked out which would meet this demand.

Mr. Genussow said the juvenile societies which were supported by the adult organisations were very good, but those which stood on their own footing never got on. What they wanted to do was to bring Zionism into the home and into the school, which would be sufficient Zionism for juveniles. At the same time, it was useless trying to make the children Zionists if the older ones were not Zionists. They should try to make the adults true Zionists.

The Rev. Mr. Lawrance said some of their Zionist Societies were in a terrible state, being almost at the point of death, and, unless they had a gentleman to go about and organise, they could have no strong adult or juvenile societies. He begged to move that one of the Executive should travel about from time to time to organise adult and juvenile societies in order to keep Zionism alive in their midst.

The Rev. Mr. Rosenberg said the juvenile societies were a very important branch of the work. They had not so much to hope for from adults as from the children. If they could only educate their children up to this movement and make them enthusiastic, they would have secured a great factor in the future success of Zionism. He agreed with the proposal to appoint a special Commissioner. In Pretoria they had a flourishing juvenile society, which depended upon one young lady. The gentleman whom he thought would make a good juvenile Commissioner was Mr. Lennox Loewe. The great fault he found with these Conferences was that they did not keep their feet upon the ground, but were always soaring towards the skies. They must keep to work that was practical. The Federation had a deficit of £200, and yet delegates came there and wanted them to undertake work that was impossible. Juvenile societies were practical.

The Rev. Mr. East supported the idea of having a Commissioner, as did also Mr. Levison (Standerton).

Mr. Abrahams thought it would be unwise to put too much on to the Executive or a single member of it. A good way out of the difficulty would be to have juvenile societies, affiliated to existing societies, which should be made really juvenile sections, and then each society could appoint a committeeman to look after the juvenile section. He supported Dr. Hertz's idea that they should get in communication with other English-speaking countries in order to promote the idea of a juvenile paper.

The President suggested the idea of having a special badge for juveniles in connection with a juvenile paper, much in the same way as a boys' paper called " Chums " issued a badge to its subscribers.

Mr. B. Danziger thought the idea of a juvenile paper very good, but could not agree with the proposal that juvenile societies should be under existing Zionist Societies. These latter had, some of them, done very little, and how could they expect them to supervise juveniles when they did not look after themselves?

The President said he thought all the suggestions dovetailed into one another, and were in no way antagonistic. He thought they might all be embodied in one resolution.

Finally the following resolution was agreed to :—

> That the Federation appoint a Commissioner, who shall have the right to co-opt assistants from without the Federation ; that he shall communicate with other English-speaking centres for the purpose of publishing an English Zionist paper for juveniles ; that the Central Committee be requested to issue a metal badge for such societies ; that the adult society shall be responsible for the formation of affiliated juvenile societies in their towns, and that for the purposes of shekolim and appointing delegates for Congress all these societies shall be thought one.

The Conference then adjourned for lunch

AFTERNOON SITTING.

The Finance Stamp Method.

The Conference resumed after lunch, Mr. S. Goldreich presiding.

Mr. Levinsohn said that before proceeding to the business on the agenda a new Council should be elected or the old Council re-elected.

The Chairman pointed out that the old Executive remained in office until a new one was elected. He could bring the matter forward later if it was their wish to have the Council elected. Their constitution laid it down that delegates should be appointed by the societies whose Federation dues had been paid.

Their next business was the finance stamp method. They had been told that morning that it was necessary to have money to carry on the work of the Conference, and it was also necessary to have method. There were very few towns in this country where Jewish Societies existed and where the fixed deposits of unauthorised balances did not also exist. He did not say that they intended to keep the money for ever, but they put no time limit on it. The money had been collected in all parts of South Africa for different purposes—for the National Fund, the Shekel Fund, or the Federation dues. The moneys were not being sent in or being utilised for the purpose for which they were collected. They had no means of controlling these funds. He had an idea that if the Federation issued a series of books of 80 stamps at 3d. each and utilised these stamps for making all payments to the national funds—everything except the societies' dues. He thought such a method would be of use. He had not known of it having been tried or having been a success anywhere else, but some method must be attempted so as to control the money collected through the various societies. Whether the Federation had got money for its further work or not did not affect the point. A method must be found by means of which they must control the sums collected for Jewish purposes, and sometimes not used for Jewish purposes. He was not certain that this stamp method was going to act, but they must discuss it and find a way of handling this most important question.

Mr. S. Lennox Loewe said that, as the founder of the Jewish Colonial Trust Share Clubs, which had been established for six years, he could say the method adopted in connection with the share clubs had been so successful that during the whole of the six years there had not been the slightest trouble or loss. The scheme was perfectly simple. The head office established in London issued a form of stamps for all parts of the world. At the present time they had 561 clubs in different parts of the world, and each club got these books. Every member obtained from the club a pass book similar to what one got at the Post Office, and when the club issued a stamp to the value of 3d. this was posted in the pass book. The method was to obtain stamps for a duly authorised place, and they could only be obtained on payment of cash. and the cash was sent direct to the Jewish Colonial Trust. As soon as you had £1 in your book you sent it back to your club, and they could devote the £1 to any purpose they liked, and there was no possibility of the money remaining in transit. The money was at the Jewish Colonial Trust, because they had to pay for the stamps before they got them. There was no sale of stamps without control, and there was no possibility of the loss of their money.

Mr. Levinsohn thought that system would only tend to complicate matters. He thought some suggestion should be made by which collectors and societies should be controlled. and should provide that the moneys collected for certain purposes should be used for those purposes. He did not see where the facilities came in by having a new issue of stamps in books, which got lost. He thought more money would be wasted than saved. If they could devise a scheme which would give the Federation of South Africa control over the money collected, he would heartily support it.

Mr. Kisselov advocated the appointment of a man to look after the various societies.

Mr. Hirsch said he thought the Federation should control the societies in such towns as Germiston, and visit them once a month. He proposed :—

That a member of the Executive be appointed to control their finances.

Mr. Levy seconded the motion.

Mr. B. Danziger said he thought they should instruct every society to send the money direct to the Federation.

The Chairman said that was not the problem. They were not worrying about the societies sending direct, but about their keeping the money for twelve months or two years. There were 15 or 16 societies who never filled up their returns, which they were supposed to do every three months.

Mr. Pessen supported Mr. Hirsch's resolution, and he complained of the fact that out of 13 gentlemen elected on the Federation last year, only three or four of them did any work.

Mr. Abrahams pointed out that sending circulars to the societies had no effect, and he did not agree with the stamp system, as he thought it made the matter more complicated, and placed difficulties in the way of new societies which started without money. He thought that if, in addition to the receipt books which local societies had, the Federation issued a financial receipt, which they could send back to the local societies to distribute to individual members, it would meet the case. If the individual member did not get this receipt he would know that his money had not been sent to the Federation, and could make inquiries about it.

Mr. J. H. Goldreich thought this system would burden the Federation Executive with too much work.

The Rev. Mr. Rosenberg thought the proposition of Mr. Abrahams struck at the root of the difficulty. He thought it would remedy the evil, which was this : Gentlemen interested in the sale of stamps went round to the different towns, took money for the stamps, and held the money. They were reliable gentlemen, and would pay over the money eventually, but experience had shown them that they did not pay it over immediately. He thought the only check they could put upon the money was that the Federation should issue a receipt to those who bought the stamps. He did not think the system would entail much more work. The great point was that the money would come to the Federation, and the person who bought the stamps would look for a receipt from the Federation. If he did not get it he would know his money was still in the hands of the collector. He had much pleasure in seconding the proposition.

Mr. Goodman said the root of the evil lay in the fact that the Central Executive had not got sufficient control over the branches in South Africa. To obtain this control the Federation would have to become incorporated, and be registered as a company. They could then appoint an official of the Conference to examine the books of the branches.

Mr. J. H. Goldreich said that if they incorporated the Federation fifty times over it would not give them any more control.

Mr. Diamond suggested that in every town where a society was formed a well-known local man should be appointed to represent the Federation and have control of the society's finances.

Mr. J. H. Goldreich : I will second that if you will make it a proposition.

The Rev. Mr. East thought that when a branch of the Jewish Colonial Trust was opened here all the different societies must bank their money with the Trust. It should be an instruction from the Federation.

Mr. Genussow said the Federation did not know how to rule its kingdom or how to manage its financial affairs. Each society should keep books whereby the secretary of the Executive could see exactly its financial position and what progress was being made.

Mr. Weinronck supported Mr. Hirsch's proposition, maintaining that there must be a man appointed to visit the local societies regularly as a kind of auditor.

Mr. Goldreich pointed out that they could not afford to keep such a man. He also approved of the suggestion of Mr. Weinronck.

Mr. Hirsch, senior, thought they should appoint a man to deal with each scheme under the Federation.

The President said they did not want such financial control as to kill Jewish activity. It was suggested they should appoint an auditor to the different societies. If they did, what would happen? How much money would they collect in a town for Zionism after his financial report had been issued? The appointment of a financial Commissioner was not a new idea. There were institutions which controlled larger sums than that Federation. The Providential Assurance Company had the largest *clientele* of any institution on earth. There were over 2,000,000 assurers, and the man who got a £50 book gave temporary or provisional receipts, and his superintendent issued the final receipts. He did not see why the Federation should not try that method. He did not say it would succeed, but it was something different to what they had already tried. They could not have a travelling organiser unless they had funds. Some months ago it was suggested that they should subscribe two guineas each towards defraying the expenses of an organiser, but not one subscription was forthcoming. They could not have an auditor in each town, as they dare not employ him. His advice was to try this financial controller in the Executive. If they got funds later on they could have a travelling organiser.

Mr. Levinsohn moved, as an amendment, that a committee be appointed to go into the matter thoroughly and report to the Conference.

Mr. Perlo seconded the amendment, which was rejected.

Mr. Hirsch's proposal, that there should be appointed a financial Commissioner, who should control the finances as he thought best, was then put to the meeting and agreed to.

The Palestine Syndicate.

The Chairman said the next business before the meeting was the Palestine Syndicate, which was a commercial undertaking. It was Professor Warburg's scheme and their own scheme combined, its object being to initiate all kinds of industries in Palestine. Mr.

Lurie, of Wynberg, had proposed the formation of a syndicate in this country, which should buy land in Palestine, but he (the speaker) was of opinion that land could be bought there very much better with National funds. The question for them to consider was, should they form here an ordinary industrial syndicate, which should make money or lose money, and which should act in conjunction with Professor Warburg? For instance, Professor Warburg's syndicate had a capital of £30,000. They would say to him, "You are establishing an oil company in Palestine. We want £25 in that. You are establishing a fishing syndicate. We want £50 in that." In other words, they wanted to have a hand in some of the industries which Professor Warburg's syndicate had started, but not in all. They knew that some of his schemes were going to fail. He was going to have a motor transport scheme. That had been tried in Rhodesia, and they knew the motors were now lying broken down at Macequece and Umtali. He also wanted to manufacture salt, but they knew there was no money in it. They would not go in for the things which their experience had told them were going to fail, but they wanted to see the people there become self-respecting and self-supporting, and they could help them very greatly without loss to themselves by these industrial syndicates. In this connection, the Anglo-Palestine Bank was doing very well, though it had only been started a short time, which showed that there was a commercial awakening in Palestine and Asia Minor. They might lose money by taking a hand in these schemes, or they might make a profit, but it was Zionism. He thought by the methods they proposed to adopt their loss would not be great. A good many people had put 5,000 marks into the scheme, and they wanted the Zionists of South Africa to take a hand in the work.

Mr. Rosenberg said that Professor Warburg had been accused of falling back on the old Choveri Zion schemes. It was to be hoped they would not lose sight of their aim to secure a home for their people in Palestine, and benefit their own people. He thought they had a right to ask what their political men had been doing during the last few years. If any progress was made they should be informed of it quickly, and they must try to give confidence to the world, and that could only be done by starting practical work in Palestine. He supported very strongly Professor Warburg's scheme.

The Rev. Mr. East said that in Jerusalem there was a missionary society which assisted the Jews to earn a living by purchasing from them articles of olive wood, etc. His grandfather taught their people in Bethlehem to do mosaic work, and these people received assistance from their Christian friends. If possible, the Jews here should import some of these articles and hold bazaars in small centres, and, by so doing, assist those who made these articles in Palestine. He had been very successful in doing this kind of thing in Vienna. Hundreds of them applied to the missionary society to sell their work, and many in that way became converts to a new faith in consequence. He thought they should assist their people in Palestine by sending out £100 occasionally and purchase articles which could be sold here at bazaars. Continuing, he pointed out that thousands of tons of salt were obtainable from the Dead Sea, and he thought this was an industry which ought to be fostered, and there was also the olive industry, which could be assisted.

Mr. Edelstein moved :—

That a branch of the Industrial Syndicate be formed in South Africa under the auspices of the South African Jewish Federation.

He thought it was their duty to impress upon the Zionists here the fact that the products of their people in Palestine were as good as the products of any other people in the world.

Mr. Weinronk seconded the motion.

Mr. B. S. Hersch moved as an amendment :—

That a sub-committee be appointed for the purpose of going into all questions concerning practical work in Palestine; a scheme drawn up by this sub-committee to be submitted at a later date to the Federation, and which should then be acted upon.

Mr. Levy seconded the amendment.

Mr. Levinsohn thought that it was a waste of time to continue the discussion as they were wandering away from the point they had in view. He also thought that the question should not be discussed until a notification had been sent to the various societies that such a scheme was under consideration, and that all who wished to participate in the scheme could do so.

The Chairman then put the amendment, which was carried on a show of hands.

The Chairman further asked the meeting to nominate members to the committee.

The following gentlemen were nominated :—Messrs. Sprinz, Abrahams, Leowe, J. H. Goldreich, Kessler, and on being put to the meeting the nominations were approved of.

ANGLO-PALESTINE BANK.

The Chairman said that this was one of the most important institutions in Palestine. The business of the bank was to lend money to Jewish agriculturists there, and up to the present they had done fairly well. None of the branches had made any loss—not even the new branches, and this year they would work without a loss. A great deal of business had been done in Palestine, but in the whole of South Africa he did not think that one hundred shares had been subscribed for the Anglo-Palestine Bank, and it was not a new institution, for it had been at work for three years. The capital of the bank was £40,000, and they had applied to the Jewish Colonial Trust to increase the capital, for they very much needed more money than was at their disposal. What did the Conference propose to do about it?

Mr. Levy moved :—

That the matter be left in abeyance.

Mr. M. Steyn seconded the motion.

Mr. Hersch moved :—

That the question of the Anglo-Palestine Bank be discussed when the Conference discussed the question of the Jewish Colonial Trust Shares.

The Rev. Mr. East said that the question of the Jewish Colonial Trust Shares was a separate matter; why then should they mix up the one question with the other?

Mr. Hersch maintained that it was not a different question. The Anglo-Palestine Bank was a branch of the Jewish Colonial Trust. There were no shares taken up in that institution in South Africa because people did not take sufficient interest in the concern. He would now move :—

> That a special Commission of the Federation be appointed for the purpose of disposing of the shares of the Jewish Colonial Trust and Shares of the Anglo-Palestine Bank.''

He stated that the sum of £400 was in the Netherlands Bank, which had been derived for certain sales. That money should be handed over to the Commissioner, who could forward it to the main branch ; and the Commissioner could be held responsible for all work done and for all money received.

Mr. Kisselow seconded.

The amendment was put and carried.

Mr. Genussow suggested that, in case of all moneys sent from Johannesburg the draft should be made payable to the Jewish Trust so that it would ensure the safe arrival of the money. He accordingly moved :—

> That this Conference is of opinion that all societies should do their utmost to remit all drafts to Europe through the Jewish Colonial Trust.

The motion was duly seconded.

The Chairman : And you want the Jewish Colonial Trust to send on the money?

Mr. Genussow : Yes.

The motion was carried.

"BEZALEL."

Revival of Jewish Art in Jerusalem.

(By Professor Boris Schatz. Translated from the German by S. Lennox Loewe, F.A.A.)

Notwithstanding all the improvements in machinery for textile and other manufactures, there still remain many articles which cannot be produced by mechanical means, and are therefore left in the hands of cottagers, and there is no likelihood of any invention replacing human hands in this direction in consequence (1) of the substance out of which the article is made, (2) or of the way in which the manufacture is carried out.

It is well known that there are many things which do not lend themselves readily to machine manufacture, such as stone work (precious or ordinary), wood, mother-of-pearl, etc. This is the reason why machinery has not been able to annihilate the Swiss and Dutch wood-carving industries, neither has it affected the Italian marble trade, and just as little has it influenced the Persian and Smyrna carpet-weaving, as well as many other artistic industries the world over. If production by machinery is to pay, the machine must turn out thousands of articles absolutely identical in every feature, whereas with cottage industries each article is made valuable by having an individual character of its own, and the artistic taste of the worker is impressed on it. All civilised countries have recognised this fact, and are erecting museums and technical schools for workers and masters, and giving evening instruction for pupils and workmen.

This is specially the case in those countries which suffer from lack of ground, or which are not fertile; in which case the authorities try and foster cottage industries; because by a combination of farming and cottage industries the peasant, no matter how small his plot is, can still manage to make a living.

1. The Committee named "Bezalel" has undertaken the work of introducing and fostering cottage industries and hand-made work throughout Palestine, and thereby to enable the young and healthy element of its population to remain in the country, and to attract new immigration by showing a possibility of settling there.

In order to ensure success the Committee decided to use modern methods of teaching, to use the latest methods in manufacture, and to deal as far as possible directly with the large houses or private customers so as to avoid the middleman who has such a bad reputation in Bulgaria and Damascus.

Methods of Teaching.—The Committee established:

(a) An art school for training technical teachers and designers. A competitive examination will be held of a few extra talented pupils, who will in due course receive a European education in art.
(b) Working men's classes at night for drawing, where they will be kept until they can draw from the model.
(c) Studios fitted up with all the best technical specialities.

2. How the Work will be Carried Out.—In order to compete with the European market, the Bezalel workers must:

(a) make use of European methods, *i.e.*, they must learn the sub-division of labour, by which hand-made goods can be turned out in the least possible time, and the worker learn it as quickly as possible.
(b) The handworker must learn to use the simplest tools only, so that he should not be compelled to have expensive things nor to take up too much room.

3. The Sale of the Goods.—In order that the Committee may be sure that the articles will command a ready sale they must strive:

(a) To obtain the raw material in large quantities so as to get it at the cheapest price, and as far as possible of a good quality.
(b) To sell the goods to important merchants in such towns where there is a demand, and where visitors are many, so that the export trade may be conducted cheaply.
(c) To work up a good reputation, so that buyers may know the trademark, and take it as a guarantee of an honest article.

Our National Bank and the "Hamburg-Palestine Commercial Co." have promised:

(1) To advance a certain sum on loan.
(2) To act as our agents, to buy our raw material in the quantities necessary, and of good quality.
(3) To obtain a good market for our articles.

The Bezalel School undertakes to supervise all the work done, to place their seal on each article, so as to authenticate the goods, and work up a reputation better than Damascus, Smyrna, or Persian ware, which suffers from imitation and forgery.

The carrying on of business on these lines will also ensure the highest possible price for the workers.

The Committee selected Palestine because there the working man can maintain himself at a much smaller cost than anywhere else. The cost of importation and the duty is comparatively small (8 per cent), besides there is a large amount of excellent raw material available on the spot, such as white, black, and red marble, also the wool requisite for carpets.

3. Palestine is held in veneration by every nationality, which fact leads us to hope that the products of this land will sell easily, and will be used to ornament both Jewish as well as Christian houses.

4. Thousands of tourists visit Palestine yearly, and according to expert opinion (Dr. Benziger and others) it will draw the richest class of visitors, every one of whom will wish to take away some artistic and tasteful memento which bears the stamp of the Holy Land on it, and will therefore not haggle about price.

5. The Palestine peasant, who, in the course of a year, has much spare time on his hands, will be able to utilise it to advantage by cottage industry, whereby a fair amount will be earned. The same will be the case with the day labourer ,and the question how to get Jewish labourers and what they are to do with their spare time will be settled once for all.

6. People here, and especially their women folk, possess the good quality of preferring to work at home to anywhere else.

The Committee hope also to elevate and improve the condition of the peasants, because this work will lighten his labour and make his burden easier, even if he has ever so little land. So that, hand in hand, agriculture and cottage industry will spread its blessing over the land, and will help each other.

One must not omit the important moral effect such work would produce. It will not only be a bread-winner but it will ennoble the taste of the people, will enthuse them for the artistic, because in corporate work no competition can exist; it will draw hearts closer together. increase confidence in manual labour (by means of collective insurance), and, finally, will bring the proud conviction that the centre of the Jewish people and the best of its population are to be found in Palestine.

Ours is not a charitable institution, but one founded on "self-help," and the time will come when the workers of "Bezalel," its scholars, its schools, its officials, and administration, together with its commercial agents and agencies, will form one band, united in ideas, whereby the natural settlement in Palestine will be begun; residents will bring their friends, relatives, and acquaintances over, who will be able to attach themselves to the land, just as in America and elsewhere.

If our work progresses the interest paid by the workers of the company will suffice to pay for the school. As we have no population and no Government which supports work as ours, we had at first to look out for assistance.

In order to prevent the "Bezalel" becoming the representative of any particular part or section of Jewry or of any country and language, which might provide the funds for it, the decision was made that the Committee should be composed of the Presidents of all the larger Jewish Societies, and the following have already joined :—The Zionist Congress, The Hilfsverein of the German Jews, Esra and Bnei Bris.

We hope to be able to announce more and equally prominent accessions, which we think will prove the bridge leading all Jewish Societies to a common goal, to economic work in Palestine, and to the use of the Hebrew language.

1. PROGRAMME AND SCHOOL.—The Industrial Art School Bezalel opened its doors on the 1st March, 1906, and notwithstanding its tiny capital (£2,000) has already been able to show good results. In the first class there are 10 scholars, who will be our future teachers and designers. Most of them have already been taught in the middle class art school, and are now in the second course, having made important and notable progress. They draw half models after nature, and use living models for sculpture ; they also paint flowers with taste and effect. They are always careful to give their work a specific Palestinian character, and for this purpose we use Palestine animals, birds and insects as models, also the collections in the Bezalel Museum, which lend themselves to the cultivation of a distinctive Palestinian style. Palestinian Jews freely give to the Museum any antiquarian objects found by them, whereby they also prove their sympathy for our work. We have also begun to give the letters of the Hebrew alphabet a new type, and we have succeeded in adding ornamentation which will give a modern character to the older style. We hand over all new designs immediately to the carpet-weaving factory, and Palestinian Art will be the keynote of all patterns, and will be valued locally, as well as elsewhere. We have already received application from an important English firm who desires to act as sole agents for England and Ireland. This house alone could provide work for thousands of families.

2. PREPARATION.—In the preparatory school there are eight scholars who are talented, and who are taught drawing, and I can affirm authoritatively that only the " Bezalel " could have drawn them out of their slumbers and from the lethargy which the " Yeshiba " life induces.

3. PLASTER CASTING.—All scholars are first taught moulding and casting in plaster, and finish the work in the sculpture division, besides which there are six scholars who are taking plaster moulding as a special line, and are taught drawing at the same time. One of these scholars has already started for himself, and is making plaster casts in relief of the different places of the Holy Land, and also types of Palestine workers after designs drawn by our pupils. The fact that an entirely new industry has thus been started here by our assistance, and that a living can be made from it, is a proof of the good effect of our institution.

4. EVENING SCHOOL.—Twenty-five pupils, mostly tradesmen, receive drawing lessons, which they find most necessary. One finds a father sitting next to his son, and each vying with the other to improve their knowledge. Talent hitherto quite unexpected shows itself in these lessons.

5. CARPET DEPARTMENT.—This is connected with a dyeing, weaving, and spinning factory. There are 45 pupils, all females. Four hundred women, widows, deserted wives, orphans, and children applied for admission, without the slightest effort on our part. Owing to Government regulations no advertisement was made, and unfortunately we had to refuse 355 willing workers through lack of funds and room. The grief of those rejected was pitiable in the extreme. The carpet department was opened on the 14th May, 1906. Girls who never had a pencil in their hands copy all designs requisite

for their work, and those girls who are more talented help the others in the preparation of the painted samples. They one and all enjoy their work, and nearly every one has already made a Persian carpet. They are also taught spinning, and in future those women who cannot master the art of carpet weaving will be taught how to spin, and will be given a spinning wheel (payable in small instalments), and will sell the wool to us for use in the carpet factory, whereby they will earn sufficient to keep themselves. Even the oldest and weakest woman will be able to do this work.

6. HEBREW INSTRUCTION.—Our pupils are here taught the spirit as well as the grammer and practise of Hebrew as a living language. It is only possible to make conversation and work easy between the different Germans, Portuguese, Buchara, Persian, Gruziner, and Morocco Jews, by teaching one and all a pure and undefiled Hebrew, and thereby they can all be taught technical matters at the same time. The sympathy of the Jerusalem Jews is with us, and "Bezalel" is the only School in Jerusalem which is not excommunicated (in the other schools the students are usually robbed of their share of the Chakukaal) though it is well known that living models are employed by us. Old Rabbis constantly visit our Institute and wish us every success. The founders of the Sephardi Orphanage asked the "Bezalel" to design a plan for their new building, and the Wardens of the largest Synagogue, "Chevra Rabbi Jeehuda Hachassid," asked us to paint it. The Christian population is also sympathetic towards us. The Asylum for the Blind and Schneller Orphanage, also the American Colony, offered us their assistance immediately, and lent us spinning wheels, which could not be obtained here at any price. They also asked us to admit their pupils but in view of future competition we only accepted those who wished to learn painting, an American, an Armenian, an official of the Turkish Post. The opening of workshops for the marble industry, especially for making articles inlaid with mother of pearl, such as Damascus ware, etc., could not be undertaken owing to not only lack of means, but chiefly for want of room. If we are forced to remain in our present rented house we not only dare not think of enlarging our undertaking, but on the contrary, we shall have to cut down the carpet manufactory, and reduce the number of girls employed, as it is impossible to work in winter, under the open sky, with only a canopy of straw, as we do at present. I deem it my bounden duty to make the Central Executive acquainted with the fullest details concerning this matter, as thousands of families, literally dying of hunger in Palestine, have set their hopes on the work the "Bezalel" will provide, to rescue them from a long drawn out life in death, and in their name I earnestly beg you to do your utmost, and I think the time has arrived when the Central Executive can do something substantial for the "Bezalel" without any sacrifice on its part. We pay a rental of 2,300 francs annually, which with repairs and alterations runs into 2,600 francs. In four months' time we shall have to renew the lease, at an increased rental of 100 francs, and still do our own repairs and alterations. As explained before, we shall not be able to stop here unless we can build some temporary rooms immediately, as we are too cramped as it is. This would cost 6,000 to 7,000 francs, and if we left the house it would belong to the owner. And ought we to do so when we know we can get a building of

our own for this money on our own land? And even if we reckon on paying bank interest we shall still save money and have a roomy place suitable to our requirements with plenty of light so necessary to our work. I therefore beg the Central Executive to lend us money from the National Fund to buy the ground and to put up the building. This would cost about 50,000 francs, and the whole property could remain in the name of the Central Executive until the "Bezalel" paid off the whole principal and interest. The "Bezalel" could pay off 4,000 to 5,000 francs, plus interest, annually. I hope the Central Executive will understand the importance of taking my suggestions into most serious consideration. Thereby it will show the Zionist world that the Central Executive is determined to do everything in its power to increase the settlement of Palestine. On our side we are convinced that we shall do much for Jewish Art, which is not directly connected with our work, and which will bring honour and glory to the Jewish people. As is well known, there are many celebrated Jewish artists who do little or nothing for Jewish Art. This is due to the fact that the Jewish artist is forced to educate himself and to finish his artistic studies in strange lands and under strange influence, and from an entirely different point of view, so that by and by he quite unknowingly becomes estranged from his own people without feeling it. But here our pupils must, by their constant association with our ancient Homeland, where every footstep recalls the past, where the most original things are met with in the streets and roads, where the happy past is brought back to us by our efforts for the future; and where, notwithstanding the bitterness of Golus in our Fatherland, we still have full faith in our traditional recompense, of a brilliant prospect for our race in our land; here, where our Jewish scholars are sitting on their benches, under the blue Palestinian sky, drawing from the best Jewish models, whilst their ears are filled with the witching sound of our own Hebrew tongue, singing our national songs and melodies; here, then, must the rising generation realize our national hopes and ideals. Our pupils will awaken a new spirit, and will show the whole world that the Jewish people have a national style and a Hebrew imagination. This is no empty dream. We are getting nearer to our goal daily and with firm steps. Much has been done in the short time of five months. Everyone who has visited our schools has convinced themselves of this fact, and as soon as we begin to send our manufactures out into the world there will be no longer room for anyone to doubt. The difficult start of all things has been made. Please help us, and then we can complete our work. For this it is essential.

(1) That the Committee of the "Bezalel" be composed of the Presidents of all Jewish Societies, and as the Wailing Wall of Jerusalem is regarded by all Jewry as a common property, so shall the "Bezalel" be looked upon as the property of the Jewish nation without regard to sect or section, where the work to revivify our nation on its own land and to make it an actuality is a living fact and not a pious wish only.

(2) To enable us to get suitable and commodious premises as soon as possible, and even if not very large, still large enough to enable us to expand our operations.

We shall make this place a Peoples' Palace of Jewish Art with our own hands. This will become known, and in every land lovers of Palestine will remember the "Bezalel" when they want mementos of the Holy Land, and will send us gifts, and give us new helpers and new workers. Our future is in our own hands, and we can make it what we desire if we really wish to do it. It depends on ourselves and on no one else. Then, as by magic, the whole sad picture of a land which once flowed with milk and honey, instead of being left to the old, the lame, and the dying, will be changed into a place filled with the spirit of youth, self-help, progress, and confidence. Our ancient fatherland will bloom once more, and the spirit of an eternal spring bring its people back, each to dwell in peace, happiness, and security under its own vine and fig trees, and to know for its sons and daughters a nation's might is behind a nation's right. The Central Executive of the International Zionist Movement has already given considerable financial support to the "Bezalel," but unfortunately, although large, it is by no means sufficient for the work to be done, and it is therefore hoped and expected that sympathisers throughout South Africa will do their utmost to collect and remit as soon as possible to the South African Zionist Federation, P.O. Box 933, Johannesburg. Care should be taken to cross all remittances.

The Chairman said that Bezalel was started in Palestine by Professor Boris Schatz, and the people were particularly engaged in the weaving of carpets and leather work. The articles manufactured would not only be artistic, but also it would enable Jews to find work in Palestine in the manufacture of certain articles. Professor Schatz's report would be printed in the report of the Conference. Not only would that work assist the inhabitants of Jerusalem and in every large town in Palestine, but also the agriculturists, who, during a certain period of the year, were not able to work on the land. By carrying out that work, it would materially assist and improve the position of those people. He was of the opinion that Bezalel should be encouraged. (Hear, hear.) He did not know whether the Conference would be willing to make any grant to them, but certainly it was a very important work. If the Bezalel succeeded they would not in the future have to be ashamed of their people living in Jerusalem. (Applause.) At the present moment they were ashamed of them. He knew that it would be work offered to the people in Palestine which had never been offered before. It would be artistic, and the work done would also be profitable.

Mr. Hirsch, senior, moved :—

> That the Federation be empowered to give a subscription of 5 per cent. or 10 per cent. towards the fund of Bezalel.

Mr. Hirsch, junior, said that the Bezalel had been formed in order to encourage the people of Palestine to better work, and he would move, as an amendment :—

> That this second South African Zionist Conference issue an appeal to all Jews in South Africa calling for support for the Bezalel School, and that subscription lists be opened for that purpose by all Zionist Societies, and all moneys collected for that purpose be forwarded to the Federation.

Mr. J. Janower seconded.

The Rev. Mr. East pointed out that certain young men who were brought up in Palestine were obliged to leave that country and go to other places and settle there, because they could not make anything in Palestine. It was their duty to assist those people.

Mr. Genussow explained that all who contributed need not be Zionists; anyone could become a member of the society and pay his fees. He thought that they should write to all societies and invite them to become members of that society and explain to them the importance of the Bezalel School, and ask them to become members.

Mr. S. Lennox Loewe said that he believed they should appoint a sub-committee in each association to treat the matter on a commercial basis. They could then get the views of the sub-committees and report to the Federation in duplicate. The Federation, again, should write to Palestine and point out how things should be made there. Soap, for instance, he believed, was made in Palestine. The makers ought to be told the requirements in this country, and told how soap should be made for the country. In that way, he thought, they could help a great deal.

Mr. Genussow moved that they should invite the various societies to make contributions towards the Bezalel.

The motion was seconded and carried.

Olive Trees.

The Chairman said that within the last few years a large number of olive trees had been planted in Palestine, and that had materially increased the prosperity of the people in whose districts those trees had been planted; and he was told that that practice was making the climate more humid—damper. In a good many parts of the world large sums of money had been collected for the purpose of planting those olive trees. The cost involved in the planting of an olive tree was six shillings, and if they subscribed a sum sufficient to plant ten trees they would get a certificate. Unfortunately, in South Africa, very little had been done in that connection, and they were expected to do something. Of course, he recognised that they could not give to everything.

Mr. Pessen also agreed that it was impossible to support all those societies, and people would begin to stay away from Zionism if they imagined that there were so many objects to be subscribed to. (Laughter.) the various societies for distribution to the various funds.

The Chairman suggested the interesting of every child in the planting of olive trees. Let the children be trained to collect pennies or threepenny pieces until they had obtained six shillings, and then an olive tree could be planted for them. If they did that they would be doing a great deal of good, and they would be teaching the children to collect money for Palestine. There was no doubt that the planting of olive trees had done a lot of good; then, too, the oil was valuable. There was nothing better in which they could interest a child, and it would do a lot of good amongst the children. That was the reason that item was placed upon the agenda.

Mr. Abrahams said that they had got so many different things that they were apt to confuse the minds of Zionists as to what they should do. They should go in for a little simplification. If every society made a subscription which would contain everything, the committees of the societies could allot out of that subscription certain funds for this thing and that, and the other object, and it would save the individual Zionist from being worried from the different funds; at present they would get confused. Let them give a certain subscription and allow the committees of the societies to give a certain proportion of that subscription to those various good works. They would remember that when their President came back from his tour in Australia they welcomed him here and in several towns very enthusiastically. But that nearly always ended in words, and in nothing else. They held a reception here, and out of the profits of that reception they were going to plant fifty olive trees and give the President the record of planting them. But, unfortunately, the Zionists who were so enthusiastic at the Conference, when the time came to do the work the enthusiasm had oozed out. The result was that they had a poor attendance at the reception, and, instead of making a profit, they suffered a loss. Now that they were there at that Conference from all parts of Africa, let them agree to do honour to their President. He said let their words be transformed into fact, and give some subscription to enable them to carry out their work of planting fifty trees in the name of Mr. Goldreich—(applause)—and so show some practical token of the esteem and respect in which they held him. (Applause.)

Mr. Hirsch suggested that it should be the work and the duty of the juvenile society to see to the planting of olive trees.

At this stage of the proceedings Mr. D. Wolffsohn returned to the Conference, and was greeted with applause.

Mr. Levy proposed:—

> That we make an appeal to all the societies, and that an appeal be issued by the South African Zionists' Federation informing the societies of the planting of olive trees, and that for every sixty shillings obtained in this connection a certificate be issued.

Mr. Levinsohn seconded.

The Chairman observed that if they gave the juvenile society that to do as a special work he thought they would be solving that problem. The work of planting olive trees was a very good work, and if they found in the course of time that there were too many trees being planted they could discuss it later; and if they found that they were not planting sufficient they could discuss that also. (Laughter and applause.)

The motion was carried.

The Chairman said that there was one problem which they wished their leader to answer, although he did not know whether Mr. Wolffsohn wished to answer off-hand. Mr. Pessen wanted to know how land could be settled in Palestine, under what conditions, and general terms.

Mr. Pessen then repeated to Mr. Wolffsohn his question as to how much they had to pay for land, and how it was settled. Was the land freehold, or how much did they pay per morgen?

Mr. Wolffsohn said that the question was not easy to answer. Mr. Pessen meant, if the speaker understood him, "Will you give me the state of Palestine to-day?" Well, it was very difficult to-day to settle in Palestine, to buy land; in fact, to take anything there. Turkey was to blame for that.

Under the laws certain Turkish officials made use of the law in certain directions to suit themselves. But each contract which had been made by a Jew had been upheld as if it had been made in any other country. That meant that the Turkish people were in that respect quite honest. What they had once contracted for they kept. But the contracts were not always simple. For example, there were several laws under which the foreigner from Russia could not buy anything in his own name. Why? It was because of the pressure brought to bear on him by certain officials who would not consent to such a thing. If, however, an official signed a document to the effect that a Russian Jew could make a purchase it held good, but there was no law which forced the official so to sign. An individual who went to Palestine and wished to make a contract generally managed to get his contract; but it was very difficult for a corporation to do so, and it was more difficult for the Zionists to buy land. He could tell them that Baron Rothschild had colonies which belonged to him, and, to understand something of the difficulties, he could also tell them that for each contract permission had to be obtained from Constantinople—a law had to be made before the contracts were allowed to be made. In Turkey there was no Parliament; the Sultan was monarch. They could not buy small things, and if they bought a big thing it had to be brought before the Sultan. Those were some of the difficulties which one had to deal with. Another difficulty was that under the Turkish law no corporation or company existed; there was no partnership of three. Business could only be carried on by an individual and not by three or four persons in partnership, and then if one person should die there remained no binding contract. In the case of a company, if one of the company died there was someone else to take the place of the deceased person, so that the company would remain like a nation. Now, under the Turkish law that was different. If a man died and had heirs it could be bequeathed then, but there were always difficulties to contend with. For instance, he (the speaker) could not purchase anything in Palestine because he had no heirs, and if he died there were many difficulties under the Turkish law, and officials came along and wished to take the land themselves. For that reason, he had nothing in his own name. An individual Jew who had land had no such difficulties, and he knew for certain that it had never happened that a man had ever lost his fortune by means of the Turkish law, although he may have had difficulties with the contracts which he had made. If a man wanted to build a house new difficulties arose, for there were five different forms of holding of land. Under one form a man could build a house here and build a stable there. It had happened when he (the speaker) was in Palestine that he had slept beautifully in a "stable." (Laughter.) Of course, it was a lovely house, but officially it was called a stable. (Laughter.) On that particular piece of ground the law only allowed a stable to be built. Those were the difficulties which had to be got over, and an individual could get over them. He was really only using this in order to answer another question which had been raised. What a private individual could do for himself they could not do as a body. As a private individual, he could go his way; but they, as a body, must go very straight. They must never show the Turkish Government that they were doing anything in order to evade the laws which existed in Turkey to-day. An individual could do things which they could not do. What a private man could do without doing wrong they, as a body, dare not do. They could only work in Palestine under very great difficulties. As a matter of fact, the Zionists had bought land for the National Fund. It was arranged in this way. The Director of the Palestine Bank bought it in his own name, with the addition that the land was bought for the Jewish National Fund. (Hear, hear.) So that they had not gone round the law in any way. (Applause.) The land was bought by the Director of the Palestine Bank; then it was transferred into Mr. Wolffsohn's name, and then it was transferred through an English solicitor into the name of the Jewish National Fund. So they would see that they had to go along very carefully and very slowly, and they dare not do anything which could not be brought to the light; but private people could work very well. He looked upon it as his duty to help these persons along. But they had to work indirectly in Palestine, but it was all the same thing to them if they could only bring the land into Jewish hands. It was the same thing to him who bought it—if the great Rothschild was the purchaser of the land, or if it was any Jews from Russia, so long as it was a Jew; but to help these people was their duty. Although, of course, they only helped those people who, it was found, were really worthy of such help. They could not give charity. If a man wanted a mortgage they must first ascertain if that man was able to pay the interest on the capital advanced. Although the interest would be small, they must consider the question from the financial point of view. Concluding, he said that the Bank had not lost anything as yet in Palestine. Even during the Russian crisis, when everything was cut down, the Jewish Colonial Bank did not lose one single kopeck That would show them how firm the Bank was. The only thing was that they were not able to pay big dividends, because they had to go slowly, and the private man could go forward surely if he only went his way carefully and slowly. (Hear, hear.)

The Chairman said that Mr. Wolffsohn's reply, briefly summed up, was to the effect that, whilst the time had not yet come for the Zionist movement in its corporate capacity to acquire large pieces of land, the time was ripe for the acquisition of land by private individuals. (Applause.) He took it that one of the objects was that there were people in this country who wished to go to Palestine. On the other side, the question had been put for the purpose of proving that they could do nothing; but, of course, he knew that Mr. Pessen did not mean that. A private individual was quite safe in Palestine to-day. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Levinsohn asked if the difficulties of purchasing land in Palestine to-day were greater for the Jew than they were for the non-Jew.

Mr. Wolffsohn, in reply, said that the strange thing about Turkey was that it was the only land in which a Jew was liked more than any other people were. (Applause.) The people there were jealous when a Christian purchased land, and were pleased when a Jew made a purchase. The Russian Jew had more difficulty than any other had. The reason was that there was an Alien Act in force to the effect that no Russian Jew could come in. The Russian Consul stood up for the Russian Jews more than did the German or the English Consuls. The English Consul was Mr. Dickson, whose name he could bless, because he was a good man. Although the Russian Consul stood up for the Jews in a wonderful manner, he (the speaker) thought this

Consul liked to use the Jews as a means of complaining to the Turkish Government. (Laughter.) He also stated that many Jews had wandered into Palestine during the massacres in Russia. In fact, more had wandered into Palestine from Russia than ever was the case before.

Mr. Levy raised a question in reference to the late Dr. Herzl.

Mr. Wolffsohn, replying, said that Dr. Hertzl had agreed to advise a grant of £30,000 for the purpose of buying land in Palestine. They had come to the following conclusion, that if suitable people wished to buy £1,000 worth of land they would give another £2,000 from the £30,000 grant. Most of the money had been subscribed to the "Geulah" (a land purchase company for Palestine) by the Zionists. It had been asked what would happen with the National Fund; why not spend it in buying land? If people thought that they were buying land which was of no use here and there, they would not subscribe to the National Fund. They had bought land for the Bezalel, and they had got work for our people in return. And they had bought other big properties which could not be worked yet. So they had leased it to the Arabs, and he was against this. If the land was not worked for three years it reverted back to the Turkish Government; and then, again, they dare not mortgage land to Jews, and they dare not split up the National Fund in order to buy land. We who were political Zionists, on the Aktions Committee, we wished to work in Palestine, but only work that was worth doing. They did not want to buy land merely in order to say that they had purchased it. He thought there was quite sufficient money spent. They did not want to buy English Consols and only get 2½ per cent. for their money, and they did not dare to split up the fund into fractions.

The Chairman made several announcements in reference to the movements of the delegates for the following day, after which the Conference adjourned until Friday morning at 9.30 o'clock.

Friday, November 30th, 1906.

The Conference resumed at 9 o'clock on Friday morning, when Mr. Manfred Nathan took the chair in the unavoidable absence of the President (Mr. S. Goldreich).

National Fund and Boxes.

The Chairman, speaking on this subject, said the Federation had ordered from the Central Executive in Vienna 500 National Fund boxes, which would arrive shortly and be distributed amongst the societies, and the question before the meeting was which was the best method of collecting, by boxes or by any other method.

Mr. S. Lennox Loewe, a member of the Executive of the Federation, said they had appointed a National Fund Bureau to go into all matters in connection with the National Fund. The question before the Conference was not the advisability of collecting with boxes.

because that had been laid down by the Central Executive in Vienna, and the Federation had to obey instructions from headquarters. He hoped that the delegates would give a little more attention to the support of the National Fund, which must be made as large as possible. Mr. Wolffsohn had told them that, with all their enthusiasm, they had only got about £60,000, which was a mere nothing when they considered the purpose for which it was raised, viz., to buy land in Palestine. It was part and parcel of the duty of every Zionist community to do all they could to promote this fund. The question before them was the best method of making the National Fund more successful than before.

Mr. Wolpert proposed :—

That a book be published in English, German and Yiddish, containing a description of the objects of the National Fund, with illustrations.

He remarked that it could be got out very cheaply, because contributors would not charge for the work.

This was seconded and agreed to.

Another resolution was agreed to :—

That the various societies pledge themselves to support the scheme recommended by the Central Committee.

Mr. Diamond suggested that it would be advisable for collections for the fund to be started in the synagogues, by which means every Jew would be obliged to give something.

The Chairman said this was a matter for the synagogues, and he did not see how they could deal with them. The matter could be carried out only by the synagogues.

Mr. Abrahams said he knew of houses where boxes like those of the Orphanage were kept, with the result that £7 or £8 was taken out. They should have similar boxes for the National Fund.

A delegate now suggested the closure of the debate, after which.

Mr. Hirsch moved :—

That the Conference affirm the principle that National Fund Clubs be started by Zionist Societies in every town on the lines of the Johannesburg National Fund Club.

Mr. S. Lennox Loewe seconded, and the proposition was agreed to.

On the motion of Mr. Loewe, it was furthed decided :—

That all National Fund Clubs shall be worked under the local Zionist Societies, and the committee shall be a sub-committee of the Zionist Association.

Orphanage and Agricultural School.

The Chairman said that, as they were all aware, a scheme had been put in hand for the establishment of an Orphanage, connected with which was an Agricultural School, for the relatives of victims of the Russian massacres. The young people were being instructed in agricultural pursuits in Palestine, and were receiving a sound technical education. It was proposed that when they left the school they would still remain under the charge of those at the head of the school, and an eye would be kept on the future. They had already sent £2,000 for the Orphanage and School. (Applause.)

Mr. Loewe said the necessity for the establishment and maintenance of the place was unprecedented : it was due to the barbarism of Russia. The Zionist Organisation was successful in sending £2,000, but he must mention, as a test of the organisation, that there was only one society which refused to co-operate in the matter. ("Name!") The shame was enough, he thought. (Applause.) They were still collecting money. In order to satisfy themselves that the money was being well expended, they had written to Mr. D. Levontin, of Jaffa, from whom they had received the reply that they could not have a better place or better organised institution for bringing up the children than the school. (Applause.) A large number had already been trained, and were now making their living. He asked them to think of the certificate issued by the committee, not as a reward for past work, but as a reminder of the work to be done in the future. The orphans had to be kept year by year—part and parcel of their duty as Zionists was to look after the orphans. (Applause.) Next year, when they had two collections made, they must see that every single town in South Africa contributed. (Applause.)

Mr. Genussow said that the town that had not contributed was Kimberley, to which he had the honour to belong. He explained that the delay was due to a mistake, in that the secretary of the Orphan Fund did not answer a letter requesting information as to particulars for three months. Continuing, he said that Zionism was at the heart of every Jew in Kimberley.

Mr. S. Lennox Loewe thought that the last speaker had innocently made a mis-statement of fact. The letter was sent, not to the Zionist Society, but to the congregation, under the directions of the head authority of Zionism in South Africa. Then the letter sent to the Zionist Association was one asking for co-operation. The congregation did not do so. Kimberley was the only society and the only congregation in the whole of South Africa which, when called upon, waited for three weeks before it asked "Who are the Zionist Federation—is the money safe?" In the end they said they would collect quarterly and yearly. He was sorry he had not used more stern expressions than he had, for they, as Zionists, were not content to wait to bury the orphans—they had to keep them alive, and a delay was serious. (Applause.)

Mr. Abrahams said he noticed that the introduction of the personal element aroused more enthusiasm than anything else at the Conferences. They did not exist to attack each other, but to do good. Still, when the order was given, it should not be debated : Centres must not say "We will collect every three months." It was for the head organisation to settle such matters as that. They must have ready obedience—the first thing was to obey the marching orders of the chiefs. (Applause.)

The Rev. Mr. Woolf said they were not discussing the behaviour of Kimberley. He thought they were wasting valuable time.

The Chairman said he was sorry that the discussion had arisen. In the interests of business, they thought this discussion should be closed.

This was agreed to.

Mr. Hirsch proposed :—

> That the Conference endorse the action of the Executive regarding the Orphanage and Agricultural School Fund, and we recommend that collections be made annually.

Mr. Abrahams seconded, and the motion was carried.

Shekels and Central Committee.

The Chairman announced that Chanuka was fixed for shekel day. The new books had been received from Vienna, and would be distributed to delegates.

Mr. A. M. Abraham said that juvenile societies of over 200 members could elect a representative to the Basle Congress. He suggested that steps be taken to prevent children under age from voting.

Mr. Hirsch handed the speaker the rules on the subject.

Mr. Wolffsohn now arrived in the hall, and was cordially greeted by the delegates.

Mr. Wolpert said the question had arisen as to whether they were allowed to take the shekel from people who did not belong to the association.

Mr. Levy thought it would be advisable to have pamphlets showing the use of the shekels.

Mr. Hirsch proposed :—

> That instructions be given to see that the coming shekel week is made a success.

Mr. Wolffsohn said the question was not so easy as some might think it. In the life of Herzl he had held that the shekel should be taken from every Jew, and he would prefer this idea to be carried out now. But to-day their organisation said that shekels could only be taken from a Zionist, but they need not examine a man's heart to see whether or not he was a Zionist. Every one paid who recognised the Basle programme. In Germany, for instance, the father paid even for the newly-born child, to whom he could not possibly explain the Basle programme—(laughter)—and he was of opinion that they could take the shekel from every Jew who knew for what it was paid. If he said, "I don't believe in your programme," of course he would not pay. He would propose this principle to the Congress—that the shekel should be paid by every Jew who agreed to the Basle programme. In the beginning the idea was that the shekels should be advertised, but now there were 200,000 payers, and the names could not, of course, be ascertained. They needed the shekels and the continuation of the organisation. How many would give for the building of a big house, and some would give so that people would know they had given. They should not give with that object in view, but should bear in mind the great good of the object. He had been one of the first shekel collectors, and he well knew the difficulties. Each Zionist who paid should be noted in the book, and if he did not know the Basle programme he would not subscribe.

At the suggestion of the Chairman, the different resolutions were withdrawn, with the exception of Mr. Hirsch's motion that every effort should be made to make the shekel week a success. It was further resolved that each shekel should be printed with the stamp of the Basle programme before the collection was made.

Mr. Rosenberg said that many in South Africa would be glad to pay 2s. 6d. and not 1s. for the shekel. They should remember, at the same time, the difference between the wealthy south and the poverty-stricken north—Russia.

In reply to several questions,

Mr. Wolffsohn said they could not have two kinds of shekels. Children had only the right to vote after the age of 18, so that the question of shekel books for children need not be considered.

Mr. Goldreich Honoured.

The first notice of motion was moved by Mr. Harry Graumann. It was as follows :—

> That Mr. S. Goldreich be elected hon. life president of the South African Zionist Federation by reason of his indefatigable efforts in the cause of Zionism.

Mr. Grauman said that eloquence or advocacy of the resolution were not required. In his experience of over 20 years there had never been any man who had taken a deeper, more thorough, or more conscientious interest in the work than Mr. Goldreich had taken in the work of Zionism in the Transvaal and throughout South Africa. (Applause.) It was due to his efforts that they had at least something to show. The times had been very much against them. There was another thing to which careful attention must be directed, and that was that the Federation might easily not have existed if they had not had at the head of affairs men of such energy and resource. Mr. Goldreich, they would all agree, had earned their gratitude. (Applause.)

Mr. Wolffsohn said he was very proud to support a motion like that. Were he in a position to bestow decorations and medals, he would assuredly give the first and the best to Mr. Goldreich. He knew what Mr. Goldreich had done here, and in the war, and in Australia. In honouring him they honoured themselves and the cause of Zionism.

The Rev. Mr. Lawrence said he remembered Mr. Goldreich when he advocated the cause of Zionism in England at a time when one was sneered at for being a Zionist. But Mr. Goldreich had made it popular. (Applause.) Might he live long to enjoy the honour that had been so well bestowed upon him. He hoped Mr. Goldreich would continue to strengthen the Zionist movement.

Mr. S. Lennox Loewe thought it was his duty to say a few words. He said only those who had seen what the work was in South Africa could in any way appreciate the efforts Mr. Goldreich had made in the cause of Zionism. They were guaranteed by Mr. Goldreich's occupation of his new position that everything would be done according to the law and in accord with the best traditions of Zionism. Organisation must ever be the greatest aim of Zionism—(applause)—and therefore they wanted men in authority whom they could trust. (Applause.)

Mr. Genussow supported the motion in the name of the Cape Colony. He alluded in terms of the highest praise to Mr. Goldreich's work in Australia, and went on to say that the whole time he was away from South Africa they had no proper organisation. The misfortune was that they had so few men like Mr. Goldreich in Johannesburg—men who would sacrifice themselves for the cause. Too many thought only of the political power of the movement, and, instead of these, they wanted workers like the gentleman they were honouring to make Zionism flourish in South Africa. (Applause.)

Mr. Danziger said it was not fair to always blame the Executive of the Federation.

Mr. Abrahams said that they might have gone a little awry while Mr. Goldreich was away, but the fault did not lie entirely with the Executive.

The Chairman pointed out that the Conference was not discussing the failings of the Executive. He again referred to Mr. Goldreich's splendid work, and said the name of Goldreich was known all over the world. He hoped the resolution would be passed with acclamation.

Mr. Chaimowitz said that often and often Mr. Goldreich would leave his own business concerns to attend to the cause. He knew how to keep Zionism alive in South Africa.

The resolution was carried with great enthusiasm.

Mr. Goldreich's Reply.

Mr. Goldreich replied with a short and humorous speech. In the course of it he said he took the appointment as a great honour. At the same time, they need not thank him for what he had done; they might as well thank him for eating his breakfast. Zionism was natural to him, and the work itself was sufficient for him. He did not require thanks, and did not care anything for criticism. (Laughter and applause.) The Federation might not be composed of the most brilliant men in the world, but they had always tried to do their best, and had never been traitors to the cause of Zionism. There was not a man they could spare in the Federation, and, though there were four vacancies, he advised them not to turn out any of the old Federation members. (Hear, hear.)

Mr. Wolffsohn said it appeared that he was supposed to have said that the shekels could only be one shilling. That was, of course, a misapprehension. He himself believed that each man should give as much as he could for the shekel. At Basle they came to the conclusion that the shekel should be a shilling or mark, but naturally each Federation had the right to make the shekel any amount it liked. To Cologne they must send a shilling, and if the amount was more they would not send back the change. (Laughter.)

Mr. Goldreich said he had asked the Central Committee to make the shekel into a coin—copper one year and bronze the next, perhaps, but a coin anyway. The paper form did not appeal to people so much, and he thought there would have been no difficulty in getting a large collection if the coin had been adopted.

Mr. Loewe said there was no reason to prevent them asking half-a-crown for the shekel, the same as in former times, and it was a fact that more shekolem had been sold at 2s. 6d. than after the reduction to 1s.

Mr. Rosenberg moved :—

> That it be a recommendation to the Executive that the shekel price be 2s. 6d.

This was seconded, but lost.

Mandate to Congress Delegates.

The Chairman said if they worked well they would have the solid vote of 100 delegates at the Congress. A good motto for the delegates was, "Support the Central Executive," and he urged that it be adopted on the present occasion. (Hear, hear.) All their men were good Zionists. In the past the trouble had been not that they had voted against their wishes, but that they did not know what those wishes were. He thought their delegates would do all that could be expected of South Africa.

The Rev. Mr. Rosenberg proposed :—

That, while fully recognising the utility of supporting and establishing colonies to work with the National Fund, the political aspect of Zionism must come first.

Agreed to.

Mr. Levy suggested that South Africa should be treated as a separate entity in the reports of the Congress, and this suggestion was agreed to.

Mr. Levy now proposed :—

That, in the event of the Territorialists approaching the Congress, they be sympathetically received by our delegates.

One or two delegates having spoken,

The Chairman said there could be no discussion on Territorialism. He agreed that they should do everything towards getting the Territorialists into their own ranks, and those who had Territorial leanings would, he thought, agree with him.

Mr. Levy's proposition was carried by 24 votes to 19.

The next motion was :—

That the next Conference shall be held in Capetown.

After some discussion, it was agreed to, and the Conference adjourned for lunch.

AFTERNOON SITTING.

Notices of Motion.

The Conference resumed its sitting at 2 p.m., Mr. Goldreich presiding.

The Chairman, dealing with various notices of motion, pointed out that Mr. Genussow's motion that the Executive should arrange for the leaders of the movement to tour South Africa to make the public acquainted with the principles of Zionism, was unnecessary. The Federation was doing all it could in that respect. Continuing, he informed the delegates that a Zionist Society had been formed at Benoni. With reference to Mr. Genussow's motion that all important pamphlets and speeches dealing with Zionism, such as Professor Warburg's, should be translated into Yiddish, he said this had already been done, but it was largely a question of funds.

Mr. Pesson suggested that a Zionist paper should be started in South Africa. He thought all the societies would take copies.

The Chairman said he thought they should ask the Central Executive to inform them what would be the cost of having the *Welt* printed in Yiddish, and what they would expect South Africa to pay towards such cost. Supposing it cost £1,000 a year, and they were asked to pay £250 a year towards it if there was any loss, that would give them a basis to go on. He asked them to substitute the following proposal :—

That this Conference communicate with the Central Executive, asking them to publish a copy of the *Welt* in Yiddish, asking also what the probable loss on such a paper would be, and what they would expect South Africa to contribute towards that loss.

If they had to pay, say, £250, they could ask the societies to make a special collection for the purpose.

Mr. Abrahams advocated the printing of a paper in Johannesburg in Yiddish.

The Chairman pointed out that even now the monthly pamphlets issued by the Federation, the minutes, etc., were not read. There were places in this country where the secretaries of societies never dreamt of informing their committees about them, and who seemed to think that such papers were sent them for the purpose of lighting the fire.

Mr. Genussow moved the resolution as amended by the Chairman.

Mr. Stone seconded it.

The Chairman said they should emulate the work of the Herzl Zionist Society, have monthly meetings, when they could discuss these papers, and wind up with a dance.

The motion was then put to the meeting and agreed to.

Mr. Genussow next moved :—

That the societies in and about Capetown and district have the right to form a district committee, with its headquarters in Capetown, for the whole Western Province, for the purpose of furthering the propaganda work in that part of the country, such district committee to be in addition to the four Country Councillors for the Western Province elected by every Conference.

The Chairman pointed out that such a proposal would require a notice of motion for the next Conference, but they could carry out their object under the present constitution. There was no reason why the Councillors in that part of the country should not meet, and he proposed that they should elect nine members of the Executive to the Western Province, and that these nine should form the district committee. He moved that there should be a member of the Federation in Natal, one in Rhodesia, one in the Orange River Colony, and nine should be appointed for the Cape Colony, who should live as near as possible to Capetown in order that they might meet at least monthly and act as a district council for the Cape Peninsula or the Western Province. If this arrangement worked satisfactorily, they would legalise it at the next Conference.

This was agreed to.

Mr. Levinsohn withdrew his motion to hold a bi-annual Conference instead of an annual Conference.

Mr. S. Levison, Mr. J. Kisselhoff, and Mr. B. S. Hirsch moved :—

That a Palestine shekel be established in South Africa.

Mr. Levinsohn moved, as an amendment :—

That there should be a recommendation to the societies to support the Palestine Commission.

Mr. Kirson seconded.

Mr. Levy opposed the establishment of a new shekel for the Zionist funds.

The Chairman was also opposed to a new separate collection, saying that if they wished to have a notice of motion for the following Conference that all the activities in Palestine should be put in one collection they would be prepared to discuss it. The Palestine Industrial Syndicate had taken over all that work.

Both the amendment and the original motion were then put to the Conference and rejected.

Mr. Levy moved the notice of motion standing in Mr. B. S. Hirsch's name :—

That this Conference re-expresses its confidence in the Actions Committee's management of the Russian Massacres Orphan Fund.

The Chairman : We do not want a vote of confidence. This Conference has never question the action of the Central Executive.

Mr. Levy accordingly withdrew the motion.

The next motion, which stood in the name of Mr. B. S. Hirsch, was :—

That the Tishabor be proclaimed an annual National Fund Day throughout South Africa.

The Chairman pointed out that this had already been done, and the motion was withdrawn.

The following motion, in the names of Messrs. J. W. Shapiro, L. Kirson, and I. Levy, was then discussed :—

It is proposed that a travelling secretary or lecturer should be engaged to control all societies, and that each society should pay a sum for the upkeep of the secretary, and the G. W. Ezrath Zionists to contribute £25 annually. That the South African Zionist Federation should be divided into twelve districts, each district to elect a representative, who should reside in Johannesburg, and that we recommend that the Actions Committee send official receipts for National Fund money and shekolem through the Federation.

The Chairman pointed out that at present there were no funds available to maintain a travelling secretary or organiser. Only recently they had asked the societies to find 500 subscribers of two guineas, and had not received a single reply. Next month, if they wished, they could make a special appeal for funds for this travelling organiser. He took it they would accept that as a portion of the programme of the Federation.

This was agreed to.

Regarding the proposal to divide the South African Association into twelve districts, the Chairman asked if they proposed that the Council should elect twelve additional men for the whole of South Africa, was it proposed that this Conference elect twelve members from twelve districts.

A Member : Yes.

The Chairman : Do you think that would make the people of the districts take more interest in the election?

A Member : Yes.

The Chairman : I do not think there is anything in it, but if you want to put it as a notice of motion for the following year you can. At present the Council must be elected at the annual Conference.

Mr. Levy moved :—

That a Commissioner of Propaganda and Organiser be appointed by the Executive of the Federation to form a Propaganda Organisation Bureau for South Africa.

The Chairman said this would be taken into consideration.

Mr. S. Lennox Loewe read the following letter, which had just been received :—

Wynberg,
November 26th, 1906.

S. Goldreich, Esq.,
President, S.A.Z.F.

Dear Sir,

In giving you congratulations on the opening of the second South African Zionist Conference on a favourable occasion like this, by having the *leader* of our organisation, Herr D. Wolffsohn, to be present, I take the liberty to point out to you, dear President, and to the honourable delegates, to do some practicable work to our holy movement, namely, in establishing a *local financial institution* in the shape or form as laid and approved by your committee long ago.

This institution should be the medium for our brethren out here to give them some facilities to go *straight to Palestine*, and to divert the stream of emigration going out of this country to other parts of the world, also to these people who still stay here. They should be able to collect some small sums for the purpose of enabling them to invest in their hearts the idea that they should make up their minds, once for all, that their future home should be Palestine, and only Palestine. I trust and hope that you will lend your influence and sympathy in the Conference in carrying this scheme to a practicable solution in such way or form as the Conference may think best, so long as the fundamental principles will be accepted.

Dear sir, I am willing to place my services at your disposal for the benefit of the new undertaking.

I remain,
With Zionist greetings.
LEON LURIE,
Chairman.

P.S.—If the Trust will be established, I am ready to take *one founder's share at £10, and 15 ordinary shares.*—L.L.

The Chairman said he thought part of this work had been already done, and that the writer should be referred to the discussions which had taken place on the subject.

Mr. S. Lennox Loewe also read the following letter from Bulawayo :—

BULAWAYO CHOVERI ZION SOCIETY

Report their membership is steadily increasing—will soon reach 250. Many individuals outside are affiliated owing to there being no societies in the outside districts. The utmost goodwill has always existed between the society and the congregation. £176 was collected for the Russian Massacre Fund (Orphans). During the eight years of the society's existence, over £2,000 has been raised for Zionist purposes.

The society strongly supports practical work in Palestine, but only in accordance with the principles of the Basle programme, to which it rigidly adheres, and appreciates the efforts of the Federation in translating and issuing to societies important Zionist papers.

Congratulations.

The Conference resolved to congratulate the Rev. M. I. Cohen, of Bulawayo, on the occasion of his marriage.

The President's Address.

Some discussion took place as to whether the President's address should be discussed.

The President pointed out that for the purposes of that Conference the President's address was the report of the Federation, and it was open for discussion.

Mr. Edelstein pointed out that there had been an important omission from the report, and that was any reference to the naturalisation of Jewish inhabitants of Johannesburg.

The President said it was true that had been left out, but the work had been done. Over 200 people had been naturalised without cost to themselves of a shilling. That is to say, they had saved these people at least £600.

Referring to the naturalisation laws of the British Empire, the Chairman said there were 35 people in Jerusalem who were British subjects in the Transvaal, but were not recognised by the British Consul in Jerusalem as British subjects. They had been having a heated discussion about this matter, and there was a likelihood that this trouble would lead to a revision of the naturalisation laws of the whole British Empire, which at present were ridiculous. A man living 30 miles from Johannesburg was a British subject there, but not in Johannesburg. Replying to Mr. Edelstein, the President said he considered the naturalisation of Jews was a useful part of their work.

Head Offices.

On the motion of Mr. Abrahams, it was resolved that the head offices of the Federation should not be moved from Johannesburg for a minimum period of five years.

The Report and Balance Sheet.

The report and balance sheet were adopted.

The President repeated that, owing to the hurried manner in which the Conference had been organised, the report contained in his address was not a full one.

SOUTH AFRICAN

FINANCIAL STATEMENT to be submitted at Second

TRUST FUNDS ACCOUNT from 6th July,

To Collections :—		
National Fund Account	£325 11 7	
Golden Book	311 12 6	
N.F. Bureau Account	258 5 3	
National Library	5 10 6	
N.F. Stamp Account	342 4 11	
School of Joffa	10 0 0	
Herzl Tribute	77 5 6	
Shekolim	429 1 1	
Russian Massacre Fund	848 14 9	
Russian Orphan Fund	47 12 0	
Olive Trees	4 8 0	
J.C.T. Shares	323 17 11	
		£2,984 4 0

ADMINISTRATION

To Costs of Adminstration	£725 2 8	
		£725 2 8

I hereby certify that I have examined the Books and Vouchers of the S.A. Zionist Federation from July 6th, 1905, to November 23rd, 1906, and that the above statements are true. Some final unimportant adjustments will have to be made.

M. ABRAHAMS,
Registered Public Accountant.

Johannesburg, 29th November, 1906.

ZIONIST FEDERATION.

Annual Zionist Conference, 29th November, 1906.

1905 till 23rd November, 1906.

By Remittances to Europe	£2,440	12	2			
Bank Balance in hand	177	6	7			
Cash Balance in hand	24	15	6			
National Fund Stamps in hand	177	13	9			
Deficiency from Administration	223	16	0			
				£2,984	4	0

ACCOUNT.

By Donations and Federation Dues	£501	6	8			
Deficiency	223	16	0			
				£725	2	8

S. GOLDREICH, President.

A. M. ABRAHAMS, Treasurer.

L. M. HART, Secretary.

The Roll of Honour.

The President said the Roll of Honour was discussed last year, but it had never been put into force.

Mr. Kirson proposed that the Roll of Honour should never be mentioned again.

Federation Dues.

Dr. A. Abelheim expressed a wish to move that the societies should be instructed to clear off the Federation deficit.

The President said there was no necessity for this. If they would only pay their Federation dues it would be sufficient. The delegates should most strongly impress their societies that it was necessary to pay Federation dues, and they would do it.

Election of Officers.

The election of officers was then proceeded with, and resulted as follows :—President : Mr. S. Goldreich. Vice-Presidents : Messrs. Hyman Morris and Dr. A. Abelheim. Resident Members of the Executive : Messrs. A. Sprinz, J. H. Goldreich, S. Lennox Loewe, H. Graumann, M. Nathan, B. J. Chaimovitz, I. Caplan, B. Danziger, and J. Heymann. Treasurer : Mr. A. M. Abrahams. Non-resident Members of the Executive : Rhodesia, Rev. M. I. Cohen ; O.R.C., Rev. Mr. Lawrence (Bloemfontein) and Mr. B. Wolpert ; Natal, Rev. A. Levy ; Port Elizabeth, Mr. Simon Brest ; Griqualand West, Mr. A. Hern ; Cape Peninsula, Advocate Alexander, Messrs. J. Schacksnowitz, I. Swartz, and R. Rosenthal ; Standerton, Mr. S. Levinson ; Pretoria, Rev. Mr. Rosenberg ; Johannesburg, Mr. H. Solomon.

Mr. Genussow, of Capetown, was elected corresponding member of the Executive.

Mr. Goldreich : Before closing this Conference, I desire to thank you for your presence here. I have to thank all the workers ; some of you have worked in one direction, some in another. It is very difficult to pick out the men who have worked most. There is our friend Chaimowitz, who, as you all know, is always there when you need him. Sometimes I would not have known what to do without my brother Jim. I give about four hours a day, and he two hours. I would also like to thank our friend Edelstein, who had done some organizing work at his own expense. Then there is S. Lennox Loewe, a man for whom time does not count when you speak of Zionism. He is one of our best workers. There are dozens of lady workers who should be thanked. There is Mrs. Glaser, who is known to have done great work for the cause. We have also to thank our secretary, Mr. L. M. Hart, who has worked most energetically to make a success of this Conference. We have also to thank our new secretary, Miss Mendelsohn, who has done most useful work in interpreting the various speeches to the Press. You ask me whether these Conferences do good. They do a great deal of good. You have shown by this Conference that we are able to govern ourselves ; that we are able to take the responsibilities on ourselves, and I am certain that when we do get our land we shall make a huge success of it. We will them have a Conference every Shobbos. Speaking of the Territorialists, the Zionists themselves have carried on more territorial organization, and I feel certain that they consider Palestine, as well as we do, to be the only solution of this problem. I hope we shall all meet again at our next Conference. Our leader will not be present, but I hope you all will, and trust you will carry out all your resolutions when you return to your societies, and trust that God will give us strength to carry on our great work, and reach our aim at last.

Mr. David Wolffsohn then said: It is always a very solemn moment to me when I close a Conference, and I think that the solemnity of the moment is equally impressed upon all of you as well. I feel as I do when, on the greatest of our festivals, on the Day of Atonement, we come to the closing services, to the Neelah, and in the Neelah service there is a word which touches me most, that is the wonderful word for which we have prayed, the word Thorah. That is the same feeling I have when we close a Conference. What remains for us, after all, but the law? I do not wish you to think that we applaud now, show enthusiasm, and then go home with our resolutions in our pockets and let them remain there, but you should make use of them, work for them, and for your cause. When, at a Congress, the question of a national flag was discussed, and Herzl desired it to be one with gold stars, I went home, brought my Talas bag, took out my bag, and said 1,800 years it has remained hidden in our bags, in our pockets, and now that we can show it to the eye of the world, it shall be our flag, but, in order to distinguish it from an ordinary Talas, a Mogan David shall be put into the centre of it. In the same manner, do not let your resolutions lie in your pockets for one day, but bring them out, show them to the world, and work them out. We Zionists have different opinions, we have differences, we are dissatisfied with ourselves, but we must be dissatisfied with ourselves sometimes if we are ambitious and wish to get on. But we can never say that we have no more work. I do not understand those words, "We have no work." When we have reached our goal, viz., the Land of our Father, when we have at last reached the object of our work, then perhaps there will be no work for us Zionists. It was our greatest misfortune that we were driven from our land. But we must have peace and not schism in our ranks. The Territorialists were Zionists; they have left our ranks, but I hope they will soon return. We have a cask of wine; it is pure, but water mixed with it, even dirty water mixed with it does no good; it does harm; but we want pure, unmixed wine. The Territorialists also have as their ultimate object Palestine, but they have other objects in hand, they do not want the wine pure, they will take it mixed. I am certain that at the moment in which we get Palestine, in which we attain our goal, the Territorialists will join us in saying that it is the greatest joy, the most glorious day of all our and their lives, and it is the best and only solution of the problem. He then concluded: After all the enthusiasm and after the wonderful reception I have received, I have considered the idea of making a tour round the world. These days have been some of the happiest of my life, and I would feel that the journey has really been of use if I thought that it would not stop with the enthusiasm. I should feel happier if I knew that the journey would have practical results, that you would buy shares in the

Jewish Colonial Trust; then verily I shall feel that my time has been spent for good. Mr. Wolffsohn then wished the delegates farewell, and hoped that he would soon see them at a Congress in Palestine.

Mrs. Glaser, President of the Ladies' Jewish Society, spoke a few words, and announced that her society had appointed Mrs. Wolffsohn and Mrs. Goldreich hon. members.

Mr. Goldreich then thanked Mr. D. Wolffsohn for being present at this Conference.

The delegates sang the National Anthem, and the Conference closed.

COUNTRY COUNCIL.

South African Zionist Federation.

At the first annual South African Zionist Conference, held in Johannesburg in July of last year, twelve non-resident members of the Council of the South African Zionist Federation were elected by the assembled delegates, including the following for Capetown and district :—Messrs. M. L. Genussow, I. Schwartz, A. M. Solomon and Advocate M. Alexander. At the first meeting of the above members of the Council held on August 20th, 1906, Advocate Alexander was unanimously elected Chairman and Hon. Secretary. In all five meetings of the members of the Council have been held, the minutes of which have been duly forwarded to the Federation, but their work in acting as directors of the Zionist movement in the Western Province has been incessant. Meetings have been addressed at Beaufort West, Worcester, Ceres, Riversdale, Maitland, Piquetberg, Mossel Bay, Wynberg, Simonstown, Claremont, Belleville, Malmesbury, Stellenbosch, and Capetown, and the members of the Council, by their constant attendance and speeches, have undoubtedly been able to revive interest, form new societies, and reorganise societies which had lapsed. Money has been collected for the National Fund, the Cape Share and National Club has been successfully launched, and the Federation, by means of the Council's minutes, has been kept supplied with the latest and fullest information concerning Zionism in the sphere under their especial jurisdiction. On the whole, the societies are passing through a severe period of financial depression, in common with other institutions, and have suffered owing to the diminution in the population occasioned by the depression. But Zionism has a strong hold on the people, and we look forward with confidence to the future. It is worthy of note that all the activities of the Country Council have been carried on without any expenditure of Zionist funds. The Chairman has given his office and the stationery and the stamps free of charge, and members of the Council who have travelled up country to address meetings have done so entirely at their own expense.

M. L. GENUSSOW.
MORRIS ALEXANDER.
I. SCHWARTZ.

N.B.—Mr. M. L. Genussow is now at Kimberley, and Mr. A. M. Solomon at Swakopmund.

Capetown, November 27th, 1906.

The Jewish Colonial Trust

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